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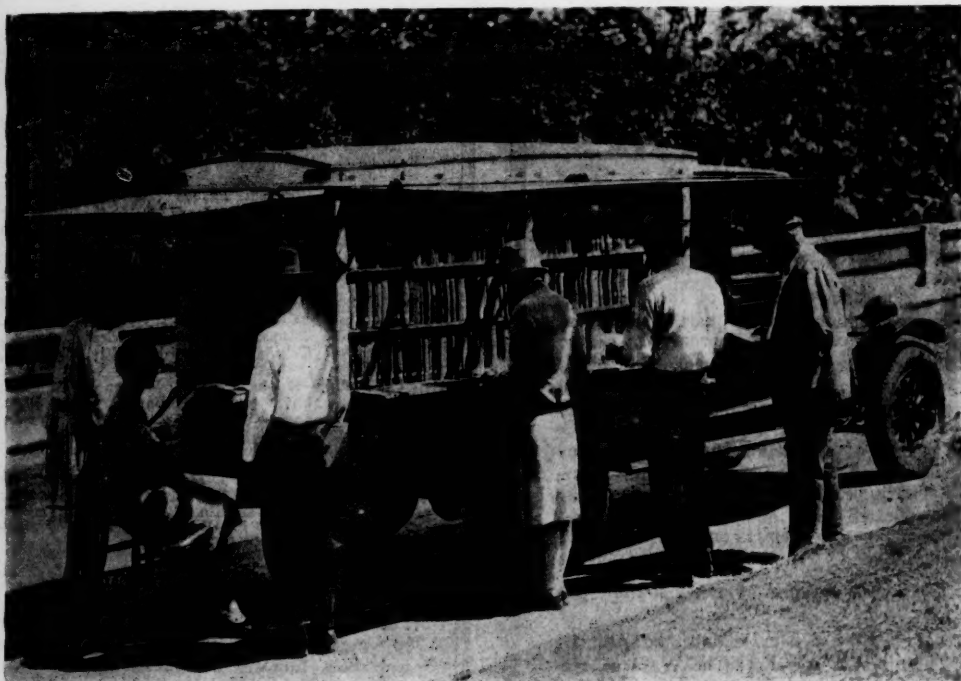
TWICE-A-MONTH

OCTOBER 15, 1927

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MONTHLY IN JULY AND AUGUST

VOL. 52, No. 18



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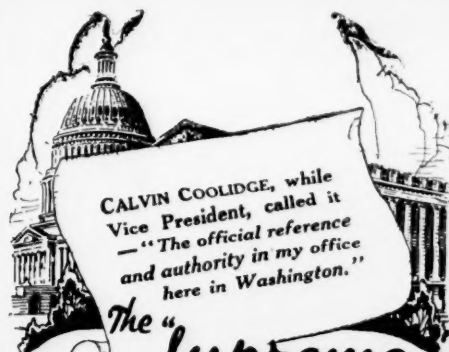
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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

OCTOBER 15, 1927

## Recent Government Publications of Interest

### I. The Smithsonian Institution

*A Review of Some Recent Outstanding Publications of the Smithsonian Institution\**

by Mary A. Hartwell, Cataloger, Office of Superintendent of Documents,  
Washington, D. C.

LIBRARIES serve the public. The Superintendent of Documents serves libraries. Requests for publications—the libraries' own selections—are a proof of genuine popularity.

Records of depository libraries in the Superintendent of Documents Office on April 14, showed that the twelve most-called-for series, with the number of depository requests for each, are as follows:

Pan American Union Bulletin	446
Agriculture Department Yearbook	445
Smithsonian Institution Annual Reports	444
American Historical Association Annual Reports	
and Education Bureau Bulletins	each 442
14th Census, 1920, Final Reports, and Congressional Record	each 434
Farmers' Bulletins	431
Ethnology Bureau Bulletins	429
Official Register of United States (Blue book)	425
Congressional Directory	422
Ethnology Bureau Annual Reports	421

Four of the twelve belong to the Smithsonian group: Smithsonian Institution *Annual Reports*, American Historical Association *Annual Reports*, Ethnology Bureau *Annual Reports*, Ethnology Bureau *Bulletins*.

Other series ranking not quite so high but wanted by more than seventy per cent of the libraries are the following, all issued by the National Museum under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution: *Bulletins*, 397; *Proceedings*, 385; *Annual Reports*, 358; *Contributions from National Herbarium*, 354; *Lists of Publications*, 332.

The high rank of the nine series noted testifies to the wide popular interest in the activities of the Smithsonian Institution.

#### ORIGIN AND WORK OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The fact may be not generally known that the Smithsonian Institution is not a Government

department, altho it administers seven public bureaus for the Government. It was founded by private funds bequeathed by James Smithson, an Englishman, who tho he had never visited our country yet had so much faith in its principles that he willed his entire fortune "to the United States of America to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." The estate netted \$550,000—a real fortune in those days—and the bequest was accepted as a public trust by the Twenty-ninth Congress which created the Smithsonian Institution under the act approved August 10, 1846.

Congress decided, however, that the Federal Government was without authority to administer the trust directly, and therefore constituted an "establishment" whose statutory members are "the President, the Vice-President, the Chief Justice, and the heads of the Executive departments." The affairs of the Institution are administered by a board of regents composed of the Vice-President, the Chief Justice, three Senators, three Representatives, and six citizens chosen from the country at large. The executive officer actively in charge is the secretary, who is selected by the board of regents.

For eighty years the Smithsonian Institution has been faithful to its trust, carrying out its founder's intent for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." It competes with none but co-operates with all in the search for basic facts. It carries on original scientific investigations with its own staff. It subsidizes researches and explorations carried on by men of any nation at strategic points along the advancing front of science. It publishes new information gleaned in all fields, and the publications are standard works of reference thruout the world. The Smithsonian evolved the International Exchange Service and is now the official channel for the exchange of scientific intelligence between the

\*Read before the Public Documents Round Table of the American Library Association, Toronto, Canada, June 23, 1927.



United States and every country of the world.

The annual reports of the Smithsonian Institution and its affiliated bodies are all published regularly by the Government. Certain bureaus administered by the Smithsonian Institution, namely, the United States National Museum and the Bureau of American Ethnology, are supported wholly by Government funds, and their publications are true Federal documents. Certain other series, such as the "Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge" and the "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections" are printed from the private funds of the Institution but have the Government franking privilege.

#### FUTURE OF THE SMITHSONIAN

Of recent years, ever-widening fields of opportunity and shrinking dollars have created new problems. Last February a conference was held at which the "establishment," the board of regents, and about forty leading citizens of the United States met "to advise with reference to the future policy and field of service of the Smithsonian Institution." The conference was saddened by the death only two days before of Dr. Walcott, who had been the secretary of the Smithsonian for twenty years, but in compliance with his dying request the conference was held at the time scheduled.

I wish you could have seen the exhibit of Smithsonian activities past and present installed in the main hall of the building for this conference. One most impressive feature was a four-column stack of Smithsonian publications twenty-three feet high, containing seven hundred different bound publications. Such placards as these were in evidence:

Every Smithsonian publication is distributed free to 1,500 libraries and research centers throughout the world.

The series "Contributions to Knowledge," for which the Smithsonian is best known, was stopped ten years ago for lack of funds.

Since the war, the "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections" series has been forced down to one-third its former size.

For the last five years, Smithsonian-publication funds have been exhausted by the middle of each year.

Research without publication is largely futile. To be effective the results must be made available to all.

Tho you could not see the exhibit you can read the story of wonderful achievements in a little publication, which gives in full the interesting and informative addresses of William Howard Taft, chancellor of the Institution, and C. C. Abbot, assistant secretary, at present the acting secretary. It includes portraits of the founder, James Smithson; of the first secretary, Joseph Henry, "without a peer in American science"; of Spencer Fullerton Baird, the second secretary,

"who killed himself untimely, carrying three men's burdens and with three men's knowledge"; of Major J. W. Powell, "the one-armed hero, who dared for science the first passage of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, strapped in his boat"; of the third secretary, Samuel Pierpont Langley, "who dared to encounter ridicule to rescue from derision the science of flying"; and of the fourth secretary, Charles Doolittle Walcott, who perfected the Smithsonian scientific organization during a crucial period of its history and who was himself the author of five volumes of papers on Cambrian geology and paleontology.

#### ANNUAL REPORTS

Besides its numerous publications for the expert worker, the Institution seeks to spread knowledge of scientific advances among intelligent general readers by reprinting informing articles in the Smithsonian Annual Report. The demand for these reports is extraordinary, probably because they answer "all kinds of questions concerning things in the heavens above, the earth beneath, and the waters under the earth." The 1925 report,<sup>1</sup> the eightieth in the series and the latest issued, is no exception.

This report contains articles on spiral nebulae and the structure of space; lightning; cyclones; volcanoes; geology in the service of man; animal life at high altitudes; needs of the world as to entomology; the role of vertebrates in the control of insect pests—I scanned this in vain for a cure for black flies and similar pests, but learned that English sparrows devour swarms of winged termites emerging from the nest. There is a long article on carnivorous butterflies; a paper on the potato of romance and of reality—read it to see how interesting it is—also the story of the clever Indian tailor bird, which makes its nest by stitching and lacing leaves together.

Besides other scientific articles written in a popular style, the 1925 report contains a brief sketch of the Institution, by Dr. Abbot, and the usual administrative annual reports on the National Museum, the National Gallery of Art, the Freer Gallery of Art, the Bureau of American Ethnology, the International Exchanges, the National Zoological Park, the Astrophysical Observatory, the *International Catalog of Scientific Literature*, the Library, and Publications.

#### EXPLORATIONS

The exploration series has been published each year since 1911. The first covered the

<sup>1</sup> *Conference on the Future of the Smithsonian Institution*, February 11, 1927. Washington, 1927. 40 p. 6 por. 1 pl.

<sup>2</sup> *Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, for the year ending January 1, 1925*. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1926. xii + 633 p. il. 4 por. 8 pl. 72 p. of por. and pl.

years 1910 and 1911. The 1926 publication<sup>3</sup> is the sixteenth. All have appeared in the "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections."

In spite of curtailed funds, the Institution in 1926 was represented in more explorations than ever before. The accounts of extensive researches in all parts of the known world are written in the third person, but are for the most part prepared by expedition leaders, and the fine illustrations are usually their own photographs. The series is exceptionally interesting. On opening the book one gets the same sort of thrill that is inspired by the *National Geographic Magazine*.

In this 1926 number are thirty-five articles on explorations in geology, biology, anthropology, and astrophysics. The leading article is by Dr. Abbot on field-work in astrophysics. Dr. Mann gives his account of the Smithsonian-Chrysler expedition to Africa to collect living animals. Dr. Resser writes on geological field-work in the Rocky Mountains. Dr. Bartsch, curator of mollusks, tells about his breeding experiments with Cerion colonies planted on keys between the Tortugas and Florida; he went down to the ocean bottom in a diving helmet and while at the Tortugas exposed 2,400 feet of moving-picture film among the coral reefs, obtaining a wonderful record of marine life in its native habitat. Dr. Hrdlicka writes at length on his anthropological work in Alaska and sets forth his theories as to Asiatic migrations across Bering Strait and as to the close interrelationship racially between the Eskimos and the Indians. Miss Densmore, in studying Makah Indian music at Neah Bay, Washington State, obtained a remarkable collection of fifty-eight pressed specimens of plants, largely medicinal—a collection made by an Indian woman and thru Miss Densmore's efforts saved for scientific research. Our Canadian friends will be especially interested in Mr. Hewitt's ethnological studies among the Iroquois Indians living on the reserves in the vicinity of Brantford, Ontario, and at Caughnawaga near Montreal.

Mr. Krieger's story of his archeological and ethnological studies in southeast Alaska at Old Kasaan is of unusual interest to some members of the A. L. A. The post-conference party on July 14, 1905, spent two happy hours one evening in visiting this deserted Indian village with its seventy-five or more totem poles and its interesting old houses. Perhaps some of my readers were there and will recall the weirdness, beauty, and charm of the place. In 1900, five years before our A. L. A. visit, the Indians had deserted their original homes and removed forty

miles to New Kasaan, where good wages were paid at a salmon cannery. By order of the President in 1907 and by proclamation in 1926, the historical aboriginal ruins of this Haida Indian village, with about forty surrounding acres, were set aside as the Old Kasaan National Monument.

During April and May, 1926, Mr. Krieger was detailed by the Smithsonian to inspect the native houses and totem poles with a view to their preservation. He describes the communal houses and living conditions of the Indians and tells what he did toward preserving the totems. In one hollow totem a young cedar had grown up and had split the totem, which still adheres to the living tree, forming two decorative panels. Mr. Krieger found that the task of restoring the abandoned houses was practically an impossibility, owing to the deterioration and decay of many years. As I recall the village—and one of Mr. Faxon's pictures substantiates this—there were several houses in a fair state of preservation twenty years ago; but tho there are totems still standing, Mr. Krieger reports that in 1926 Eagle House "is the sole remaining structure at Old Kasaan, and with the house of Jim Peel at New Kasaan, is the only surviving native house in southern southeast Alaska."

#### THE FIRE BOOK

The book on fire<sup>4</sup> gives a detailed account of the cultural origins of fire and the earlier steps in fire utilization—not fire the destroyer, but fire the ally of mankind.

In Dr. Hough's preface he states: "Heating and illumination are the grand divisions of the subject. These comprehend all the topics relating to the uses of fire." He describes and pictures ancient fireplaces, pottery, hot-water bottles, Chinese and Flemish hand and foot warmers, the primitive foot stoves of colonial New England, American Indian tongs, primitive bellows, braziers, all sorts of ancient stoves, fire making by means of the drill and by fire saws and plows, firefly lanterns, torches, splint and candle holders, and lamps.

There has been much dispute as to who was the first matchmaker; now it has been proved by documentary evidence that the lucifer match was invented by John Walker, a chemist of Stockton-on-Tees, who sold the first box for one shilling and twopence in April, 1827. Walker refused to patent his invention on the score that he had enough for his simple wants and that he would put no obstacles in the way of a thing which promised to be a boon to the public.

<sup>3</sup> *Explorations and Field-work of the Smithsonian Institution in 1926*. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1927. iv + 259 p. il. 1 pl. ("Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections," v. 78, no. 7.)

<sup>4</sup> *Fire as an Agent in Human Culture*. By Walter Hough. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1926. xiv + 270 p. il. 1 pl. 40 p. of pl. (National Museum. Bulletin 139.)

What Mr. Hough writes about fireflies seems surprising. After descriptions of two type genera of light-emitting beetles, he writes of firefly catching. Lafcadio Hearn tells of a Chinese student who inclosed fireflies in a paper lantern in order to obtain light by which to study. The Japanese hunted fireflies with a long bamboo pole and a bag of mosquito netting, using one method of catching them until 2 o'clock in the morning when the insects leave the trees for the dewy ground, and another method after that hour. A Japanese expert has been known to gather 3,000 fireflies from the ground in one night. Different kinds of lanterns for confining fireflies are described.

#### HANDBOOK OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

In her handbook <sup>6</sup> Miss Densmore's introduction speaks of the two men chiefly responsible for this splendid collection of musical instruments—Dr. G. Brown Goode, the assistant secretary of the National Museum and the founder of the collection, himself a musician, and Mr. Edwin H. Hawley, who devoted over thirty-five years to its development and secured instruments from all over the world.

Mr. Hawley devised a system of classification and prepared several card indexes, the largest of which contains over 23,000 cards, representing musical instruments in other museums or cited in literature. The collection includes musical reference books, old musical publications, photographs, and phonograph records of primitive music, some of the latter made in 1888.

The handbook describes gongs, bells, cymbals, castanets, rattles, wind instruments, drums, and stringed instruments. It tells us that the now ubiquitous saxophone was invented as early as 1840. The book contains a wealth of musical history and ethnological material concerning many nations and includes a short bibliography on musical instruments.

#### MARSH BIRDS

The volume on marsh birds <sup>6</sup> gives the life histories of North American flamingos; herons, storks, ibises, and their allies; and of the cranes, rails, and gallinules, etc. It contains absorbing information for lovers of birds, either the scientific ornithologist or the ordinary mortal who is interested in the wild bird life of the woods, lakes, and swamps. It carries the classification and nomenclature of the American Ornitholo-

gists' Union and describes the orders of marsh birds by families, genera, and species; but it is written in popular phraseology and tells just what any one wants to know as to the habits and distribution. For each marsh bird, under "habits," the author groups his information under such sub-heads as courtship, nesting, eggs, young, plumages, food, behavior, enemies. Under "distribution" he tells of the range, the breeding range, casual records, egg dates, spring and fall migration. The text and pictures are fascinating, particularly in the sections on the flamingos and the great blue heron, or blue crane—the largest, most widely distributed, and best known of American herons. The author quotes from Audubon's description of the spectacular courtship of the great blue heron and tells of its family life. He reported great commotion around a heronry early in the morning, again about ten o'clock, about two, and just before dark, which indicates that both parents sit on the eggs alternately in four-hour shifts. Both father and mother share in the care and feeding of the young.

This book is the sixth in a series on the life histories of North American birds by Mr. Bent, published as National Museum "Bulletins." A volume on shore birds is well advanced; but to complete the plans already laid by Mr. Bent for this monumental series on all American birds will require fourteen or fifteen volumes more. Unfortunately the Smithsonian has only enough funds to print one volume a year. Let us hope funds will be forthcoming to see the completion of this remarkable set during the author's lifetime.

#### NORTH AMERICAN WILD FLOWERS

This publication <sup>7</sup> was selected by the A. L. A. as one of the best 37 books of 1926. One looks at the volumes and touches them with a feeling of great love and wonder and awe. The portfolios are themselves attractive in their fancy, but serviceable, gray linen dress, trimmed with dark blue leather, tied with soft blue-gray silk tape; and ornamented with the silvery seal of the Smithsonian in aluminum. The type for the back-title, title-page, and foreword is fitting and appropriate.

In the foreword Mrs. Walcott reveals her lifelong interest in painting with water-colors the wild flowers of North America in their native habitat. Her work was done often in difficult situations, particularly in camp and on the trails in the Canadian Rockies, where for ten years she spent three or four summer months each year botanizing and painting, while Dr. Walcott was making his geological explorations.

<sup>7</sup> *North American Wild Flowers*. By Mary Vaux Walcott. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1925. 2 portfolios out of 5 issued.

<sup>6</sup> *Handbook of the Collection of Musical Instruments in the United States National Museum*. By Frances Densmore. Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1927. iii + 164 p. 49 p. of pl. (National Museum. Bulletin 136.)

<sup>6</sup> *Life Histories of North American Marsh Birds, Orders Odontoglossae, Herodiones, and Paludicolae*. By Arthur Cleveland Bent. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1926. xii + 490 p. 2 pl. 96 p. of pl. (National Museum. Bulletin 135.)

The flowers, life size, in natural colors, stand out from the page like living things. The artistry is wonderful. You recognize your friends—flowers you have yourself found in tramps around home or vacationing among lakes and mountains. Some seem familiar enough, but you discover that they are a different species growing native elsewhere. Others are entirely new. But you love them all and marvel at the skill with which the original sketches were drawn and painted, and wonder how the paintings have been so faithfully reproduced.

The firm by whom this work is being printed has developed an improved color half-tone photographic process, using as many colors and printings as were essential to obtain the desired result. The plates were printed by a special process on specially prepared all-rag paper, thus insuring both artistry and permanency and making the photographic prints look like paintings. We are told that at a short distance it is difficult to distinguish between the originals and the reproductions.

Each plate has its own descriptive text, written by Mrs. Walcott, assisted by competent botanists. Sometimes she pictures and describes both flower and berry. The descriptions are not technical, but are written in a semi-popular style, telling where the specimen was found—the most perfect specimen she could locate—and its soil, elevation, range, as well as other information of interest. Mrs. Walcott has not attempted to create a textbook on wild flowers, nor to include every wild flower that grows in North America; but the four hundred plants she describes, or will describe when the set is complete, are every one native to North America.

The set of five volumes is being published on a subscription basis and Mrs. Walcott dedicates her work "to the patrons who have made possible its publication."

The *de luxe* edition costs \$500 for the set. A library edition is also being published in less pretentious green cloth portfolios, each portfolio holding a stitched section of the eighty pages of text, and eighty plates. In this edition the size of the text and paintings is identical with the *de luxe* edition, but the margins are narrower and the volumes are therefore smaller and cost less—\$150 for the set, instead of \$500.

Mrs. Walcott has done a great work for flower-lovers. Her *North American Wild Flowers* is in every way a remarkable achievement.

#### PHYSICAL TABLES

One Smithsonian authority says of the *Physical Tables*<sup>8</sup> "It may fairly be claimed to

<sup>8</sup> *Smithsonian Physical Tables*. Third reprint of seventh revised edition, prepared by Frederick E. Fowle. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1927. xlv + 458 + [1] p. (Smithsonian Institution. "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections," v. 71, no. 1.)

be the most accurate up-to-date general collection of physical, mechanical and related data in existence."

Acting-Secretary Abbot says "In the physical sciences, the Smithsonian compilations of the constants of nature are of exceptional value for physicists and engineers. The *Physical Tables*, inaugurated by the Smithsonian, have now gone thru seven editions with many reprints."

It is impossible to give in a brief review an adequate idea of this volume, which is an indispensable reference book.

Other publications belonging to the series of tables are the following, the last two of which are particularly valuable to engineers: *Smithsonian Meteorological Tables*, *Smithsonian Geographical Tables*, *Smithsonian Mathematical Tables*, *Hyperbolic Functions*, *Smithsonian Mathematical Formulae and Tables of Elliptic Functions*.

#### METEOROLOGICAL DATA OF THE WORLD

In closing this Smithsonian review, I should like to mention one more outstanding publication now in press.<sup>9</sup> It will form a complete volume of the series of Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections and will have over one thousand pages of tabular matter containing a unique collection of the best available weather records for the entire world covering a long period of years.

This volume, compiled by Mr. H. H. Clayton and published through the generosity of Mr. John A. Roebling, will be entitled: *World Weather Records*. The preface concludes: "Meteorology stands deeply indebted to Mr. John A. Roebling for providing the means to publish this long-desired collection of fundamental data, which cannot but be of great use in future theoretical and practical researches."

I wish to express my sincere appreciation of courtesies shown me in the preparation of this paper by Mr. Webster P. True, editor, and Dr. William Lee Corbin, librarian, of the Smithsonian Institution; and also to Dr. George H. Locke, librarian of the Toronto Public Library, for permission to exhibit at this meeting his library copy of Mrs. Walcott's *North American Wild Flowers*.

<sup>9</sup> Since issued. World weather records, collected from official sources by Felix Exner, G. C. Simpson, Sir Gilbert Walker, H. Helm Clayton, [and] Robert C. Mossman; assembled and arranged for publication by H. Helm Clayton. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, August, 22, 1927. vi + [1] + 1199 p. "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections," v. 79, 1.

#### Free on Request

Any librarian or teacher may secure from the National Association of Book Publishers, 25 West 33rd Street, New York, a list of book plays compiled by the office of the Supervisor of Work with Schools, New York Public Library.



## II. The Treasury Department

*An Outline of the Publications of the U. S. Treasury Department by Mary P. Billingsley,  
Librarian of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.*

THE publications of the United States Treasury Department are so varied that they offer something of interest to everybody. Recently, statements given out by the Treasury Department pertaining to the Treasury surplus have commanded much front-page space in the newspapers. Already, the entire scheme of revenues and taxation is of such wide public interest as to be generally conceded one of the live issues for Congress when it convenes next December. Not only do statements given out by the Treasury Department attract widespread attention, but there is an increasing tendency on the part of the Treasury officials themselves to address directly the people thru the medium of current periodicals and the radio. Mr. Ogden L. Mills, the recently appointed under-secretary of the Treasury, contributed the initial article to the *Nation's Business* for June under the title of "Cut Taxes, Pay Debts, or Spend?" On June 8th, Mr. Mills broadcasted an *Announcement Regarding the Exchange of Second Liberty Loan Bonds*, which is also published as a government document in addition to the regular *Department Circular*. The importance of this announcement has been reflected not only on the market pages of the daily newspapers, but also in special telegraphic dispatches.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. Andrew W. Mellon, has contributed occasional articles to magazines. He wrote "What I am Trying to Do, as Expressed in the Policy of the Treasury Department toward the Public Debt" for the *World's Work* of November, 1923.

Again, he contributed to the May, 1925, number of the *Nation's Business* an article entitled "What Future for the Federal Reserve? The System has been a Decided Advantage to the Business of the Country; We should Renew its Charter." This article aroused such wide discussion that it resulted in a section renewing the charter of Federal Reserve Banks being inserted in the McFadden Banking Bill, and passed as a section of the McFadden Banking Act.

The importance and value of the publications and work of the United States Treasury are reflected in those articles and books pertaining to government departments published by non-official sources. The Institute of Government Research devotes seven of its monographs to the bureaus and offices of the Treasury Department. These monographs not only take up the history, activities and organization of the different bu-

reaus, but include chapters on publications, and very full bibliographies. "The National Budget System," by Mr. W. F. Willoughby, is a very complete treatise on the work of the Bureau of the Budget.

Contrasting with these research studies, is the series of sketches in lighter vein by W. P. Helm, jr., now appearing in *Nation's Business* under captions such as "Who Gets Your Tax Billions?" and "The United States Treasury, Jack of Many Trades," or that group of articles in the *Scientific American* entitled "Uncle Sam, Spend-thrift." The *United States Daily*, on October 25th, 1926, started a "Topical Survey of the Government of the United States." This grouping of related activities aims to present a clear picture of what the government is doing. Finance was the topic for the articles which appeared in the *Daily*, February 15-March 4, 1927, of which twelve directly concern the Treasury Department. This series of copyrighted articles, each one a brief sketch of the work of the Treasury Department, its bureaus and offices, is of special interest because each one is a signed statement by the man now at the head of that work. Thus, the activities of the Bureau of Internal Revenue are aptly described by Commissioner David H. Blair. The general article on the Department of the Treasury, by Secretary Mellon, states with brevity, force, and simplicity, the A B C's of that Department. These brief articles, designed for wide popular use, are masterpieces of their kind. Very important also, in the "Outline of Organization of the United States Government," is the diagram on "The Department which Manages National Finances," which appeared in the *United States Daily* for October 6, 1926.

*Publications of the Treasury Department* is listed by its Division of Printing and Stationery, as of January 15, 1923. As a help toward a better understanding of these publications, the mimeographed report prepared by the Section of Statistics, dated April 30, 1927, giving "An Outline of the Duties of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Various Offices and Bureaus in the Treasury Department" is valuable. This outline mentions the *Digest of the Congressional Record* prepared and mimeographed by the Section of Statistics each day when Congress is in session on the progress of legislation in which the Treasury is interested. In the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, this Digest is re-



ceived on the same day as the *Congressional Record*, and has proved a great time saver.

The latest *Annual Reports* of the Secretary of the Treasury with their accompanying statistical exhibits constitute a mine of information. This material has been so much in demand that it was necessary to print as separates, advance releases from the 1926 report on such topics as "Receipts, Expenditures and the Surplus," "Internal Revenue and Customs," "Stock and Circulation of Money," "Obligations of Foreign Governments."

Supplementing the *Annual Report* a *Daily Statement of the United States Treasury* is published.

The demand for and popularity of the statistical material in the *Annual Reports* is further shown by the large number of tables included from it in the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, and even more so by the percentage of material from it included in the more generally used handbooks such as the *World Almanac*. The *Guide to Original Sources for the Major Statistical Activities of the United States Government*, published by the United States Bureau of Efficiency in 1925 includes many references to Treasury Department publications.

Of very general interest are the occasional letters which the Secretary of the Treasury submits to Congress in response to House or Senate Resolutions such as "Interest Payments on Foreign Indebtedness," "Analysis of Muscle Shoals Bids," "Seized German Ships," "Expenses of Loans and Expenditures from Repayments of Foreign Loans," "Proposed Public Building Projects."

*United States Coast Guard* is the title of an especially attractive illustrated booklet distributed at the Sesquicentennial last year, copies of which are still available. A little more recent and somewhat more detailed in its descriptions, is the pamphlet *Functions, Duties, Organization and Equipment of the United States Coast Guard*. A very informative mimeographed report is *The Coast Guard in the World War*. Everybody interested in first aid instructions can use *Directions for Restoring the Apparently Drowned*. *International Ice Observation and Ice Patrol Service in the North Atlantic Ocean for 1926* issued as U. S. Coast Guard Bulletin 15 states policies and gives a narrative of thrilling events, including a brief account of radio operations. Even the *Annual Report of the Coast Guard* assumes importance when it is remembered that to it is assigned the task of preventing the smuggling of liquor into the United States from the sea. Those who have been reading rum-running stories in *Life*, *Collier's* or the *Saturday Evening Post* will find the publications of the Coast Guard a mine of authentic informa-

tion. First hand information concerning prohibition is not found in *Anti-Saloon Yearbooks* as might be supposed, but is compiled by the Prohibition Unit each year with the title *Statistics Concerning Intoxicating Liquors*. The Prohibition Unit has also compiled a *Digest of Supreme Court Decisions Interpreting the National Prohibition Act and Willis-Campbell Act*, and an *Analysis of Operation of Federal and State Laws Affecting Prohibition*. The Secretary of the Treasury, on January 25th, transmitted an important public document on *Prohibition Enforcement*.

A mimeographed *List of Publications of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Available for Distribution, December 1926* is useful. Besides copies of the Revenue Act of 1926 with accompanying *Regulations on Income Tax and Miscellaneous Taxes*, the Bureau of Internal Revenue has issued a *Comparison of the Revenue Acts of 1924 and 1926* and each year issues a volume on *Statistics of Income from Returns of Net Income* for the preceding year. Up-to-the-minute information is supplied by the issue of a weekly *Internal Revenue Bulletin* and also a weekly periodical called *Treasury Decisions under Customs, Internal Revenue, and Other Laws*.

The Bureau of the Budget is nominally placed in the Treasury Department, but actually is under the immediate direction of the President. Two meetings of this business organization of the Government are held each year, and on these occasions, the addresses of the President and of the Budget Director are broadcasted, and further publicity is given them by the leading newspapers of the country, which print them in full. The *Annual Report* and *Addresses* are also printed as public documents.

*A Brief History of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing,—and its Work* is published by that Bureau in addition to its regular *Annual Report*.

The Federal Farm Loan Bureau publishes an *Annual Report* detailing its progress as well as circulars which give publicity to its work. Consolidated statements of condition of the several Federal and Joint Stock land banks, and the Federal Intermediate Credit banks, as reported by them, are mimeographed monthly, and supplement the printed reports.

Press dispatches which give a résumé of the last call of the Comptroller of the Currency readily find space in the metropolitan newspapers. Somewhat later, in fifteen to twenty days, the Office of the Superintendent of Documents sends out this compilation of figures as *Abstract of Reports of Condition of National Banks*. Aside from the very important *Annual Report* of the Comptroller of the Currency, the

publication now most in demand is the new edition of the *National Bank Act*, which includes all of the changes brought about when the McFadden bill became a law.

*Description of Paper Currency Issues of the United States and the Monetary System of the United States* are two interesting mimeographed releases of the Bureau of the Mint. The annual report of this Bureau is supplemented by the mimeographed report on *Production of Gold and Silver in the United States* and the printed leaflet *Values of Foreign Coins*.

*The United States Public Health Service, What Does It Do for Me?* an illustrated booklet first distributed at the National Sesquicentennial Exposition last year, is a graphic statement. *The Work of the United States Public Health Service* issued as Reprint 1128 from the *Public Health Reports*, December 10, 1926, is a reprint of eight copyrighted articles prepared by a staff writer of the *United States Daily* after an interview with the Surgeon General and his assistants in charge of each of the seven divisions of the bureau. *Some Special Features of the Work of the Public Health Service*, Reprint 1138 from *Public Health Reports*, February 4 and 11, 1927, is a collection of short articles, originally published in the *United States Daily*, which deals with the research and administrative activities of the bureau.

*Some Publications Suitable for General Distribution* is Reprint No. 1075 from the *Public Health Reports* of April 16, 1926. *Child Hygiene and Related Publications issued by the Public Health Service*, Reprint No. 960 from the *Public Health Reports* of September 26, 1924, is another useful bibliographical tool.

Complete lists of material are found in "Miscellaneous Publication" No. 12, *Publications of the United States Public Health Service*, January 1927. The latest edition of Price List 51, *Health, Disease, Drugs, and Sanitation*, issued by the Superintendent of Documents, lists available publications by subject.

The educator, the professional man, the research worker, the college student, the school boy or girl, the housewife, the business man, the manufacturer or industrial manager, and all classes of people will find something of interest in the varied publications of that greatest of welfare agencies, the United States Public Health Service. *Prevention of Disease, and Care of the Sick, How to Keep Well, and What to Do in Case of Sudden Illness, Including First Aid to the Injured*, 4th edition, 1926, supplants nothing more or less than the old-fashioned medical handbook which used to be found in so many rural homes. Besides, it is a primer on public health procedure. Other mis-

cellaneous publications of special value are *Tuberculosis, its Nature and Prevention, and Getting Well: Some Things Worth Knowing About Tuberculosis*. Supplements to the *Public Health Reports* issued recently, which have general value are *Exercise and Health*, 1926; *Transmission of Disease by Flies*, Rev. ed. 1926; *Review of the Literature on Influenza and the Common Cold*, 1924; *Sewage Disposal for Suburban and Country Homes*, 1926.

Among recent *Public Health Bulletins* are: *Comparative Tests of Instruments for Determining Atmospheric Dusts*, 1925; *Mental Hygiene with Special Reference to the Migration of People*, 1925; *Studies in Natural Illumination in School Rooms*, 1926; *A Synopsis of the Child Hygiene Laws of the Several States*, 1925; *Sewage Treatment in the United States*, 1923; *The Campaign Against Malnutrition*, 1923.

The Division of Venereal Diseases publishes a magazine relating to remedies for diseases, and also educational pamphlets for use in the home and in school. The most recent contribution of this Division is "Bulletin" No. 86 *Sex Education—A Symposium for Educators*.

*Public Health Reports* are issued weekly, and are intended primarily for distribution to health officers, members of boards of departments of health, and those directly or indirectly engaged in or connected with public health or sanitary work. Articles of general or special interest are issued as reprints. The wide range of subjects treated by these reprints is shown by enumerating a few of them, as follows: *Whooping Cough; its Nature and Prevention*. Reprint no. 100. Ed. No. 1924. *Nutrition in Childhood*. Reprint no. 654. 1927. *Good Teeth; the Importance of Good Teeth and the Prevention of Decay*. Reprint no. 654. Rev. ed. 1925. *The Care of Your Baby*. Reprint no. 727. 1925. *Diphtheria; its Prevention and Control*. Reprint no. 778. Rev. ed. 1925. *Measles*. Reprint no. 780. Ed. 1923. *Tuberculosis; its Predisposing Causes*. Reprint no. 829. Rev. ed. 1926. *Workmen's Compensation Acts in the United States; the Medical Aspect*. Reprint no. 909. 1924. *Safeguarding the Sanitary Quality of Drinking Water Supplied on Interstate Carriers*. Reprint no. 935. 1921. *Cancer and Proprietary Cures*. Reprint no. 910. 1924. *A Plea for More Attention to the Nutrition of the School Child*. Reprint no. 951. 1924. *Development in the Field of Mental Testing*. Reprint no. 961. 1924. *Studies in the Industrial Dust Problem*. Reprint no. 1033. 1925. *Destruction of Cockroaches... by Cyanogen-chloride Mixture*. 1925. *Sickness Among Industrial Employees*. Reprint no. 1060. *The Public Health Nurse*. Reprint no. 1071. April

9, 1926. *Intensive Treatment for Hay Fever*. Reprint no. 1073. 1926. *National Program for the Unification of Milk Control*. Reprint 1098. 1926. *The Influenza Epidemic of 1926*. Reprint 1104. 1926. *What the Government is Doing for Tuberculous Persons*. Reprint no. 1120. 1926. *The Control of Communicable Diseases*. Reprint no. 1129. 1927.

The great variety of publications issued by the Treasury Department indicates that it is concerned not only with the management of the finances of the National Government, but with a number of miscellaneous and related services. In addition to the official publications, the radio, articles in popular magazines, even books, such as the volume on taxation by Secretary Mellon, and the *Branch Banking Question* by Deputy Comptroller of the Currency Collins, are employed to center public

attention on problems of great importance. Advance press releases and mimeograph reports supplement the printed ones.

This heterogeneous mass of pamphlets is, I admit, rather appalling to the average busy librarian. Last year Miss Guerrier told the Documents Round Table how the Boston Public Library makes this material quickly available to its clientèle. The *A. L. A. Survey* gives data in regard to caring for this class of material in the most representative larger libraries. "A. L. A. Manual" series No. 25, *Pamphlets and Minor Library Material* issued in 1917 no longer reflects the best practice on the subject. Only a paragraph or two are included on the use of the vertical file, so on behalf of the librarian of the smaller library, I plead for a popular official pamphlet telling just how this material can be arranged and utilized.

### III. Interior and Commerce Departments

*A Selection of Recent Documents of the Interior and Commerce Departments*, by Maud Durlin Sullivan, Librarian of the El Paso (Texas) Public Library.

IN making a selection of interesting current documents published by the Departments of the Interior and of Commerce, a few of those which pertain particularly to the needs and development of the Southwest have been chosen as well as others on general subjects. A group of documents could easily be selected to cover any part of the United States but our problem is chiefly concerned with a great desert country made productive thru the reclamation projects undertaken by the Department of the Interior and also with its mines and minerals on which the Geological Survey furnishes such valuable and authoritative material.

In the Department of the Interior an important publication is the *New Reclamation Era*, a monthly periodical of the Reclamation Bureau, full of information and closely concerned with the serious difficulties which meet the farmer and investor in irrigated countries. The April number contains an interesting article on "An Agricultural Program for the Rio Grande Federal Irrigation Project," which is a valuable report. To have this periodical on file where it can be consulted easily has meant a great deal to those interested in the subject of reclamation.

*The Bureau of Reclamation, Its Functions and Accomplishments*, prepared for the Pan-Pacific Conference on Education, April 11 to 16, 1927, is not only of interest to the public but is a splendid tool in teaching assistants about this department and increasing the intelligent use of its publications.

The National Park Service issues most attractive little pamphlets on the national parks and monuments. To motorists traveling thru the country to the coast or vacationing, these bulletins are not only of the greatest use in giving information on travel but they are real histories of some of the romantic episodes in the early settlement of the Southwest. Glimpses of our National Parks, the Grand Canyon, the Petrified Forests of Arizona, and the Mesa Verde National Park are the best guides for travelers as they give information on hotels, transportation, and every detail necessary to a comfortable trip. One of the most interesting of these bulletins is *Glimpses of Our National Monuments*. This includes the Carlsbad cavern, recently proclaimed a national monument, and tells the story of El Moro, the famous rock carved with the inscriptions of the Spaniards who passed that way in the 16th century.

At our annual travel exhibit for summer vacations the table of documents is quite as popular as that containing the latest books. There is great interest here in Southwest history and archaeology. We plan special trips which take the traveler to historic sites and these bulletins furnish much of the information supplied. We have been told by enthusiastic motorists that part of their equipment for long trips is the *Guidebook of the Western United States*, published by the Geological Survey.

The bulletins, reports and maps of the Geological Survey furnish the best available material on general and economic geology. A

frequently consulted annual bulletin is *Contributions to Economic Geology*, in two parts, one on metals and non-metals, except fuels, and the other including papers on mineral fuels. These short papers and preliminary reports describe areas or deposits on which no other report is likely to be prepared. There are also brief notes on mining districts and preliminary reports on economic investigations the results of which are to be published later.

Another valuable publication is *Operating Regulations to Govern the Production of Oil and Gas*. This would apply to other localities besides the Southwest.

The Bureau of Education with its splendid reading lists for parents and for children, its interesting publications on everything concerning the development of education, supplies many attractive and interesting bulletins. The most used this past year is a little pamphlet called *How the World Rides*. We should not like to say how many children have written compositions and themes and prepared talks from this bulletin. The story of transportation is delightfully and briefly told with illustrations which would make any child wish to know more. There is a chapter on the automobile and the aeroplane and the airship, there are interesting bibliographies on literature, music and art, surrounding this thrilling subject of the growth of transportation. A 1927 bulletin on *School Hygiene and Physical Education* is just what we wanted to help a teacher in preparing a series of talks on physical education for children.

The periodical literature of the Department of Commerce supplies important facts for the man who wishes the last word on anything pertaining to industrial affairs in the United States and other countries. Besides the *Monthly Survey of Current Business* there is a weekly supplement which is frequently consulted. Those mysterious graphs which look so simple to the business man who uses them, and so complicated to the assistant who presents them, are the most useful tool for showing business conditions quickly and accurately. The *Commerce Reports* and *Weekly Survey on Foreign Trade* have readable articles on what is going on in the great world of industry and are used more frequently than many of the more popular periodicals attempting to cover the same subjects.

The *Commerce Yearbook* is particularly interesting to business men and those working for the stabilization of industry and trade. "Trade Promotion Series" No. 1, 1924, *Packing for Foreign Markets*, by J. F. Keeler, has helped many a puzzled man to solve the problem of shipping food stuffs or other commodities to foreign countries. Every detail is given about

the necessary container, how it should be packed, what it should be made of and illustrations make it very clear and simple to follow directions. *Retail Store Problems*, publication no. 9 under the Domestic Commerce Division, is comprehensive and condensed material on an important subject.

There are few books in the reference library more often called for than the *Commercial Travelers' Guide to Latin America*, and the accompanying maps. *Motor Roads in Latin America* also belongs to this group. Not quite so late but even more popular is "Special Agents" series no. 220, *Mexican West Coast and Lower California, a Commercial and Industrial Survey*. While there are no facts on Mexico that "stay put" very long, the value of this report is in the account of natural resources of the country and their development. The Bureau of the Census in the annual publications covering the census of agriculture for each state is particularly valuable when it is applied to one's own locality. We have found the one on New Mexico especially useful. It has been consulted recently more than any other one bulletin of this Bureau. *Cotton Production and Distribution Season of 1925-26* is of local interest in giving statistical information of cotton growers.

The publications of the Bureau of Standards are indispensable in supplying material which could not be found in any other place. The *Technologic Papers* constitute the basis of much scientific research work. Circular no. 276 on *Motor Vehicles Headlighting* was a useful addition to a recent list compiled in the reference department. *Stucco Investigations with Recommendations for Portland Cement Stucco Construction and Soundproofing of Apartment Houses* are among the publications most frequently consulted.

"Reports of Investigations" and "Circulars" of the Bureau of Mines are series giving detailed technical information. A subject for which new material must be collected from every possible source is flotation. From the Bureau of Mines these recent reports are valuable and important additions, *Differential Flotation of Copper and Iron Sulphides*, *Present Status of Differential Flotation*, and *Consumption of Reagents used in Flotation, 1925*.

In the Department of Labor the *Monthly Labor Review* answers some of the most unusual questions for reference workers. I have in mind a search for the analysis of a certain hair dye believed to contain a poisonous substance, which was in this review for May, 1926.

Most important for general use are the publications of the Children's Bureau. A little circular on *Sunlight for Babies* has suggested



beneficial treatment in this country where the sun never stops shining long enough to rest a bit. Other bulletins which are of the greatest assistance to parents and to those working in connection with city health departments are *Infant Care*, *Nutrition Work for Preschool Children*, and *Child Management*.

The Bureau of Naturalization has published splendid help to those engaged in teaching foreigners. *Teaching Our Language to Beginners*, and *Federal Textbook on Citizenship Training* are the most popular of these bulletins, and are constantly used by teachers of the Mexican children here.

In any library where documents form a large part of the reference material there must be an interested and well-trained group of assistants

using them. A personal knowledge of departments and bureaus and an enthusiastic appreciation of the material which they publish are a great asset to those who work with documents. It has been our custom to meet frequently in the reference department and discuss the publications received each week. To train further and to interest members of the staff the very best help which I have had is a bulletin published by the Bureau of Education, compiled by Edith Guerrier, *The Federal Executive Departments as Sources of Information for Libraries*. No one could study this little handbook and read the delightful foreword to each department without being stimulated and inspired at the tremendous scope of the Government publications, and grateful for the opportunity to use them for the public we serve.

## IV. The Department of Agriculture

*Some Seeds for Library Gardens. Selected by Jessie Woodford Lyman. Downer's Grove. Ill.*

THE accompanying little list by no means represents all of the issues of the past year from this department whose bulletins and leaflets are read by a larger and more varied group of persons than any other of the governmental publishing bodies. Uncle Sam's presses have poured out hundreds, even thousands, of interesting and valuable pages. I have tried to collect those that will appeal to the largest number of people with the varied and wide-scope interests of both city and country residents.

First let me say that this group of publications is a far cry in attractiveness, popular form and scope of subjects from a similar group which might have been selected ten years ago. The war left its mark on printing for popular use, and today the charge "uninteresting" can hardly be laid against governmental publications.

With the 1920 *Yearbook of Agriculture*, the Department departed from its long established custom of a group of miscellaneous articles published with the statistical data for the year, and began an economic review of agricultural products, grouped so that each year should cover one group, and the entire list take but five years. The last *Yearbook* in this series is dated 1925 and is on fruits. These five volumes constitute a remarkable survey exceedingly valuable as to information, fascinating as to text and illustration, and popular always, especially so to teachers and students of commercial and economic geography. Graphs, charts, photographs, illustrate these condensed stories of food production and the industries connected with it. Separates are obtainable for separate articles.

Similar, tho more brief, is a new series called "Agricultural Survey of South America." One is for *Argentina and Paraguay*. These will go out of date for the business man but for the school boy they will ever be a ready help.

Radio and the airplane have daily opened new test and practical applications to the solution of everyday problems. *Airplane Dusting in Control of Malaria Mosquitoes* covers control investigations of 1923 of the marshes and forests of Louisiana and "describes the process of dusting breeding places in woods, lakes and fields with paris green" and opens up possibilities of practical work in mosquito control in suburban and country campaigns for covering large tracts of land. Perhaps our great western wheat fields will be sown from airplanes, or we may have flying Johnny Appleseeds sowing orchards or beautifying the barren places. If so it will be but following old Mother Nature's plan, for her "the birds of the air" are winged sowers!

The radio has also given listeners opportunity of becoming pupils in a vast "Radio Farm School" conducted by our Department of Agriculture. Short courses on dairy work, live stock, and poultry have been issued as rapidly as courses were broadcasted. Think of the magic of these "seeds" planted out of sight, over the country! The little booklets are necessary for library gardens, for hearers will want to review or refresh their memories.

*Aunt Sammy's Radio Recipes* follows a similar idea of helpfulness, for housewives, and provides a usable cook book in loose-leaf form.

*The Guide to Good Meals for Junior Home Workers* makes older women glance back with



longing to the days when first dreams of home-making stirred them, for it is a fascinating bulletin in make-up and text, simply explaining food selection, nutrition, food groups, and meal planning for health. It is for both home and school use, and the young bride will welcome it.

In the justly famous "Farmers' Bulletin" series—a series not meant for farmers exclusively—there are *Convenient Kitchens*, *Fitting Dresses and Blouses*, *Leather Shoes*, *Principles of Window Curtaining*, and *Stain Removal* especially for those with household problems; all are practical, helpful, interest-holding. *Convenient Kitchens* suggests labor and space-saving devices, contains plans, and is a revised edition of a popular bulletin. *Fitting Dresses and Blouses* gives the home dressmaker the helps over difficulties she often finds hard to conquer. *Leather Shoes: Selection and Care* tells how shoes are made, how to fit them properly, and how to keep them in order. It is also a new edition. In this day of curtains on curtains this bulletin is a true help with its complete, tho concise, review of the subject for average homes.

For the man of the house confronted with the need of proper house heating, and desiring to lessen his own labors with the coal furnace *The Domestic Oil Burner* will prove a valuable, money-saving, and timely bulletin, as it gives the results of tests of different types of oil burners, discusses oil fuels, costs, safety, and the future of oil fuels. It is well illustrated.

*Breeds of Dogs* gives history, utility and general characteristics of forty-six of the more important breeds, and will help in identification as well as selection of the "Friend to Man."

*Raising Rabbits* is not for the small boy who wants to know how to care for his pets, but it is for the man who desires to raise for market both for food and fur. It includes six recipes for cooking. The cover design is misleading for it is one that will attract children rather than adults, and certainly shows that designers of even popular bulletins do not always know the texts to be illustrated. It is to be hoped that this same attractive cover will be used for a simple bulletin for children, for there is a need for such.

In connection with the above bulletin *Rabbit Skins for Fur* is most enlightening, as it discloses present trade names of this fur, "Baltic fox" being "natural white rabbit," "Arctic seal" merely "seal dyed rabbit." Of course skin preparation and marketing are treated.

*Rural Hospitals* tells what a community needs to know about starting a hospital, and touches on history, types, and need. This pamphlet should be in every village library.

Forestry from various view points is a topic of today. *A Checklist of the Forest Trees of U. S.* is a revised edition of the famous list of

1898, and increases the number of known species from 504 to 862, which indicates the carefulness and value of this revision. *Forest Fire Prevention: A Handbook for the Schools of New Mexico* is one of a series for school use—teaching young America how to protect as well as enjoy our forest areas and woodlands. *The Forest Handbook for Teachers* outlines courses for various grades, and includes the interesting subject "When wood is not wood"—use in the manufacture of artificial silk, paper-pulp, gunpowder, etc. It is a veritable gold mine of interesting fact for tree lovers as well as an outline for study. *Forestry as a Profession* answers briefly questions relating to national, state, municipal and private forestry work, salaries, positions, and field work, and is for persons who desire to understand the opportunities in this form of work. *Forestry Program for Women's Organizations* needs no comment, except that it should be given much publicity and use. *Identification of Furniture Woods* is the sort of thing that young furniture men or those who aspire to it, need. It also offers much to the person buying furniture for a home, and it will provide material for school pupils on wood and its uses. *Nut-tree Propagation* is for the nut grower. It covers all he needs to know in a technical manner, and is not for the man who wants to have a few nut trees on his place for the boys. *Planting the Roadside and Trees for the Roadside* are in the interests of state, county, and community beautifying and equally suitable for the private home. They are practical and useful, with lists of trees for various regions, descriptions of trees, and roadway planning, care, etc.

*Banana Culture in Hawaii* brings to mind the many calls from school children for material on this popular fruit for the next day's lesson. While a technical report, it is simple enough for more than one use.

*The Story of the Range*, by Will C. Barnes, assistant forester and chief of grazing, Forest Service, is a reprint of part 6 of the *Hearings held on Senate Resolution 347 of the 69th Congress*, "to investigate all matters pertaining to national forests, public domain and their administration." This thoro, detailed account of grazing on public lands, "effect on forage and land of unrestricted grazing, and the attempts to regulate and so perpetuate these great resources," is worthy of careful reading. Tho not the popular account for the junior reader that its title would indicate, it will provide debate material for the high school student, and it has valued information for the reference librarian.

There is a group of bulletins representing studies in the retail meat industry and why the cost of living is high. These are all technical studies and surveys of market conditions and the

influence of consumers' preferences on market prices. The material has been compiled from questionnaires sent to housewives and members of the trade, and offers some very enlightening and thought-producing facts for those interested in the present situation, also for those now in the retail meat business or about to enter it. (*Methods and Practices of Retailing Meat, Margins' Expenses, and Profits in Retailing Meat, Consumers' Habits and Preferences in the Purchase and Consumption of Meat.*)

*Reliability and Adequacy of Farm-Price Data* is also a technical survey bearing the impress of thoro study and research into this question which is important today not only to the producer, but to the consumer, and this is a contribution of great helpfulness to the librarian.

Similar in type is *Expense Factors in City Distribution of Perishables*, a study of vital interest to housewives who have to depend, in part at least, upon city distribution of vegetables and fruits. "This survey present methods in use in New York City but more or less the same in all cities, and gives the causes of high prices and the distribution costs between jobber and retailer."

*Footwear* is a bibliography of the literature on everything pertaining to the subject. It covers the fitting of shoes, foot structure, corrective foot exercises, shoe history, design, manufacture, care and repair, and hosiery.

The 4-H Clubs are doing such remarkable educational work for increased efficiency in the home and on the farm, that bulletins 6 and 7 are deservedly popular. The first, *Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work*, gives outline and aim of the club organization of the 4-Hs, e.g., Health, Hand, Head, and Heart. *Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work Under the Smith-Lever Act 1914-1924* is a ten year review showing the leaven working all thru the country.

It is impossible to review all the valuable and interesting titles, but I would like to call attention to two small "Department Circulars," *How to Prepare and Display Extension Exhibits*, which, while planned for County Agricultural Extension Agents, offers no less valuable suggestions to librarians planning library exhibits. Among the headings are those most vital to worthwhile displays, "Gaining and Holding Interest"—"Aim and Purpose of Exhibit"—and there is a score card for exhibit rating. Every librarian needs a copy close at hand. "Use of the Camera in Studying the Growth and Development of Dairy Animals," shows new possibilities for practical photography, and records made in front of measuring screens. If this is of value in animal husbandry, does it not offer possibilities of its value in the library, or in other lines of work for graphic record?

While this is for plain photography, the moving picture record or the autochrome records are also possibilities, the first because of action, the second for record of actual color, which is invaluable. Today physicians are using autochrome pictures in recording conditions of vital organs; we can use it to demonstrate to the public the colorful record of library work and collections.

The foregoing papers were read at the Toronto A. L. A. public documents round table.

## What Stories Shall we Tell

COMPILED by the story-tellers of the New York Public Library over a period of nearly twenty years is *Stories*; a list of stories to tell and to read aloud, edited by Mary Gould Davis.

No attempt has been made to compile a complete list; the stories selected are those which have stood the test of the children's interest and approval. Of these there are rather over three hundred for the general story hour, about one hundred for the older boys and girls, and the list concludes with a baker's dozen of editions of "The Hero Stories." (25 cents).

## Opportunities

No charge is made to LIBRARY JOURNAL subscribers for insertion of notices in this department.

Woman with college degree, library training and several years of successful experience in a library desires a position in the south or west, preferably in a college. References. E. A. 18.

An examination for high school library assistant—men and women eligible—will be held by the New York City Board of Education on November 25. Applications should reach the office of the Board early in November but in no case later than November 9. Address: 500 Park Avenue, New York.

College and library school graduate with good research experience and language equipment wants to do indexing—periodicals or books—especially in legal or technology field. M. K. 18.

Trained librarian wants position as librarian in medium sized library. Desires change of location and will go anywhere in the northern part of the country east of the Rockies. Initial salary not less than \$1,800. N. W. W.

Wanted by Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library, children's worker with library school and some experience. Salary \$1,500.

Experienced library assistant has some spare time and would like to catalog, prepare clippings, etc. E. R. 18.

Reference librarian, college graduate desires change of position. Has had eight years' experience as head of reference department in large public library. B. A. 18.

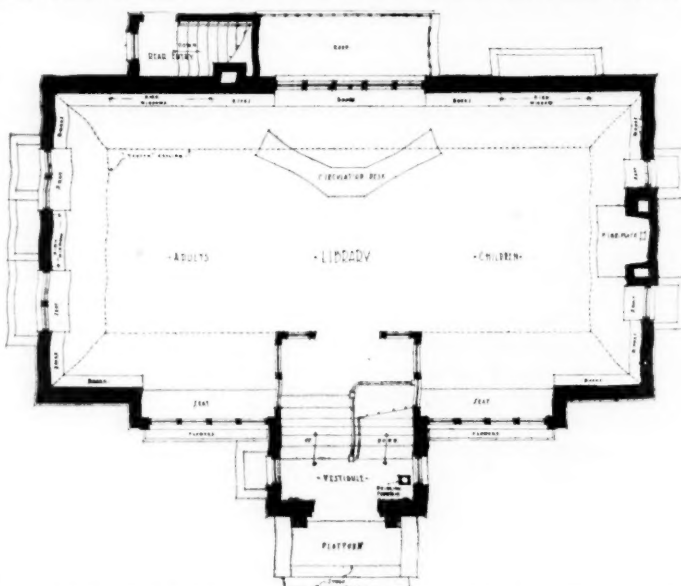
Wanted, catalogers, Los Angeles County Library. Pleasant working conditions. Two positions to fill soon, beginning \$130. Address L. A. County Civil Service Commission, Hall of Records.

## Anniversary and Birthday at Sioux City

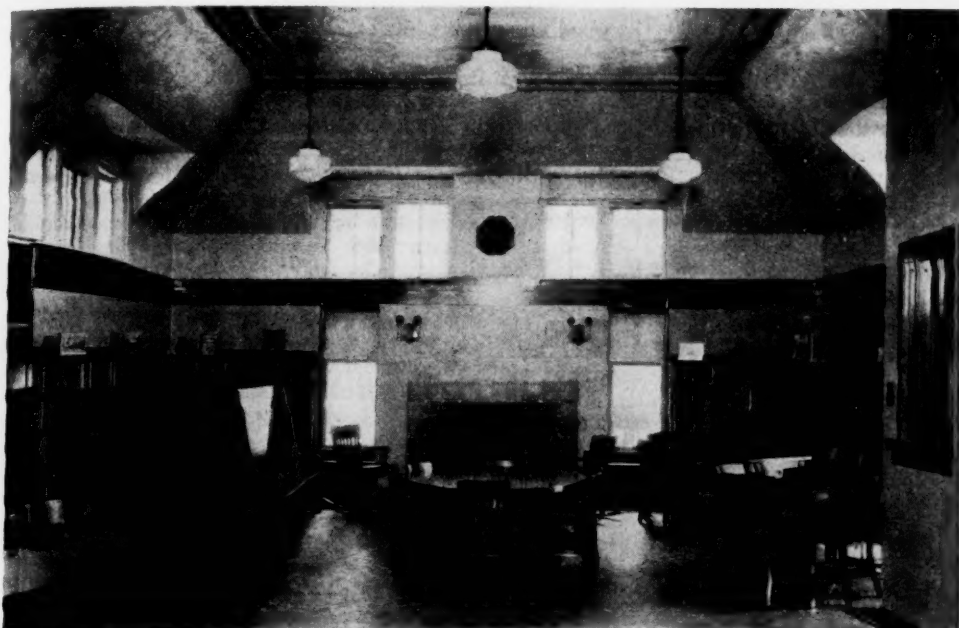


COINCIDING with the fiftieth anniversary of the Sioux City (Iowa) Public Library, established by ordinance of the City Council in 1877, comes the opening of the attractive Fairmount Park Branch, the first branch library to be built in the city without the aid of an outside benefaction, as its architect, William L. Steele, points out in his *descriptive pamphlet*. A similar building is in process of erection in Smith's Villa, to be followed annually by the erection of buildings in four other districts of the city, a program made possible by the \$100,000 bond issue voted in 1926. The main library, built in 1911-1913, and the Leeds Branch Library, built in 1916, were both erected thru gifts from Andrew Carnegie (\$75,000) and some additional grants. Others branches, with their dates, were the Wall Street Mission (1908), Greenville (1913), a busy branch

which has outgrown its quarters, Morningside and Smith's Villa (1914), and Riverside (1917). The main library, six branches, deposit stations and hospital department house 80,723 volumes and circulate more than 415,000.



A CIRCULATION DESK OF UNUSUAL DESIGN IS WELL SUITED TO THE MAIN FLOOR PLAN



THE CHILDREN'S ROOM SHOWING THE "TENTED" CEILING

In architectural style the new branch is entirely modern. It is designed to be a pleasant, safe and attractive place in which to read or study. The size of the building, which stands in a neighborhood park cared for by the Park Department, is approximately 25x50 feet. The walls are brick and hollow tile faced with a

rug-texture brick of a rich yellow-brown shade. A band of cream-tinted stucco terminates the brick work and continues for the finish of the "soffit" of the wide overhanging cornice. The roof is green glazed tile. The name panel is colored tile in blue and yellow-cream. The blue is repeated in the tile mosaic canopy at the entrance and the doors which it shelters. The main floor is of reinforced concrete.

Within, two floors provide quarters for adult and juvenile reading and circulation, a community meeting room, and staff facilities. Ample window lighting removes the stigma of "basement" from the community hall, which can be used for any purpose from a children's story hour to a place of registration for elections. The north half of the main floor is the adults' reading room; the southern, with its fireplace and low shelves, is reserved for children. Both are in view of the circulation desk. The entire room is large, well-lighted, with a raised or "tented" ceiling. The color scheme is a rich brown with



A LOFTY GROUND FLOOR GIVES LECTURE ROOM AND OFFICE SPACE



lighter shades of tan and ivory. The wood finish is oak; the floor covering a dark shade of linoleum. Entrance and egress facilities are so arranged that any special function may be carried on in the lower portion of the building without interfering with or disturbing the administration of the library. The building is heated by a hot air furnace of the newest type, coupled with a fan to insure proper circulation of the warm air.

### The A. S. L. I. B. Conference

WHERE to find specialized information of all kinds was the topic of the Fourth Conference of A. S. L. I. B. (The Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux) that was held at Trinity College, Cambridge, during the week-end September 23rd-26th. Nearly two hundred attended, representing organizations of every variety including the Empire Marketing Board, Ministry of Labour, Board of Trade, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, British Medical Association, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association. Foreign organizations were represented, including the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation (Paris), the International Institute of Bibliography (Brussels), the International Labour Office (Geneva), the American Library Association, the Special Libraries Associations both of America and Denmark; the Dutch Institute of Documentation and the International Commission of Decimal Classification (Deventer, Holland); and there were many representatives of important industrial and commercial interests.

Visitors were received on arrival by Sir J. J. Thomson, Master of Trinity. After the Presidential address of Sir Geoffrey Butler, K.B.E., M.P., the Conference proceeded to discuss the recent *Report* of the Public Libraries Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Education. A resolution was passed endorsing the proposal to expand the Central Library for Students into a truly national lending library which would act as a reservoir of books for libraries throughout the country. A paper by Col. Sir Henry Lyons, director of the Science Museum, dealt with the important developments now taking place at South Kensington in what is already one of the world's greatest scientific libraries.

Sectional meetings were held devoted respectively to statements regarding Patent Classification submitted by the Offices of Great Britain, Germany and the United States; to information bureaux problems; and to industrial questions. In this latter section especially there were a number of papers of outstanding importance, notably those of Mr. A. E. Overton, principal,

Board of Trade. Major L. Urwick spoke on "Rationalisation in Industry," and Mr. W. Wallace, Rowntree & Co., Ltd., on "Business Forecasting." A most useful discussion took place in which Mr. Schwartz, London and Cambridge Economic Service, and Mr. W. Hubbard, *Manchester Guardian Commercial*, among others, participated. The Conference concluded with a paper on "Standards of Book Selection in Science and Technology," by Sir Richard Gregory, editor of *Nature*. A large number of informal discussions were also held and the general opinion of those attending was that the Conference had proved most stimulating.

### For Better School Libraries

AT the close of the N. E. A. conference in Seattle in July a library conference under the joint auspices of the A. L. A. and the N. E. A. Department of Elementary School Principals was held, as a result of which the following recommendations were offered:

As a result of our study of the problems presented in this course we beg to offer the following recommendations:

1. This Conference recognizing the urgent need of a better understanding and knowledge of the organization, administration and functions of the elementary school library recommends the continuation of the Elementary School Library Conference course following the 1928 N. E. A. Convention and each year thereafter as the need may be felt for this type of instruction.

2. That a school library department be established within the A. L. A.; that someone properly qualified be selected to act as the head of the department and, further, we wish to stress the necessity for close co-operation between the A. L. A. and the Department of Elementary School Principals of the N. E. A. in organizing and continuing this work.

3. It is essential that better and more extensive library science courses be developed and offered in normal schools, teachers' colleges and universities during the school year and that special efforts be made to offer these courses during summer sessions. It is our hope that at least one normal school or teachers' training school in each state shall offer a library science curriculum that shall meet the standards of the A. L. A. We also feel that the accredited library schools would do well to make available during summer sessions their curricula in school library science leading to a degree.

4. It is felt that steps might be taken by normal schools, teachers' colleges and universities to encourage young prospective teachers who appear to possess special qualifications for such service. This would help to fill the need for better trained teacher-librarians.



# Jubilee Conference of the Library Association

THE Jubilee Conference of the Library Association is over and a splendid success it has been.

Held in Edinburgh, Scotland, that center of education and culture, during the week of September 26th, under the able presidency of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, C. M.G., everything passed off to the satisfaction of everybody, which is saying a good deal of any convention, either British or American.

It was by far the largest convention ever held by the Association. Over 825 delegates were present and seventeen countries were represented, the United States having eighty-two in attendance.

One feature that particularly appealed to the American delegates was the punctuality of members and the promptness of the presiding officer in opening the sessions in contrast with the practice at many A. L. A. meetings. The work went on whether anyone appeared, but as a matter of fact, the hall was well filled at the very beginning of a meeting, and only a few stragglers dropped in after the session was well under way. Another noticeable feature was the preponderance of men. Why, we men could actually hold up our heads and look about us without fear or favor. This again was in contrast to an A. L. A. meeting, but we wouldn't go so far as to say that we should reform in this particular even tho we believe that a few more strong men in the A. L. A. might leaven the lump.

The official opening on Monday morning by the retiring President Dr. Henry Guppy served to call the attention of the delegates to the exhibits of books, binding and library appliances. This was a splendid idea, serving to draw the attention of librarians to the commercial side of library work and bringing into closer acquaintance and relation the librarian and dealer. On our side we might do worse than follow this excellent example.

The sessions proper closed on Thursday afternoon, but that evening was held the annual dinner at which Lord Elgin presided. After the toast to "His Majesty the King" (in real wine) the principal toast of the evening, "The City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh," was proposed by Mr. R. R. Bowker, and responded to by Baillie Nasmith. It is needless to say that Americans held their heads a little higher while Mr. Bowker was speaking. In passing let me say that it was fitting that Mr. Bowker should

have been selected to propose this toast as he was the only person present who had attended the first Edinburgh Conference in 1830. Permit me also to say that Mr. Bowker received a splendid ovation when he appeared in the assembly hall at the opening session.

There were toasts to the "Overseas Library Associations and Librarians" with responses by President Carl B. Roden and Dr. Hugo Krüss; "The Library Association," proposed by Sir Frederic Kenyon of the British Museum, and responded to by the Presiding Officer, and to the "Local Reception Committee" by Dr. Theodore W. Koch and responded to by Sir George Macdonald and Mr. E. A. Savage, librarian of the Edinburgh Public Library. The exercises closed with a Scotch song by the Earl of Elgin who with his decidedly musical voice quite won the hearts of the large audience. Never has it been my good fortune to listen to so many good after-dinner speeches in so short a time. No one overstepped the time limit. This annual dinner wound up the Conference in a blaze of glory and gave the right "flip" to an unusually instructive, informative and successful series of meetings.

Of the sessions themselves much might be written, but two or three things stand out with some prominence.

First, the presidential address of Lord Elgin, given at the Tuesday evening meeting (he had been inducted into office at an earlier session). He has a clear, pleasing voice and his address, "A Jubilee; Center and a Free Swing," was broadcast to all British wireless stations. He dwelt at length upon the Department Committee Report on the Public Libraries of England and Wales, referred to the Jubilee of the Association, and emphasized the value of freedom to the library service.

Second, the manner in which Lord Elgin, as president, conducted the meetings. Calm, judicial and firm in his decisions he kept the speakers within limits and never allowed the discussion which followed each topic to stray from the field.

Third, the address of Dr. George H. Locke, librarian of the Toronto Public Library and ex-president of the A. L. A., on "The Profession of Librarianship." He was better than ever and that means a great deal to those who have heard Dr. Locke speak. The addresses given by the other Americans on the program were of such

a nature as to reflect credit upon themselves and the A. L. A.

Fourth, the discussion of the *Report* of the Departmental Committee on Libraries, opened by Sir Frederick Kenyon. This report had received much criticism by English librarians and an acrimonious discussion was expected, but by limiting each speaker as to time and by confining the discussion to the general features of the *Report* rather than to the details, the Chairman had the meeting well in hand, and the report received the almost unanimous approval of the Association.

Other interesting sessions were given over to "The Future of the Central Library for Students," "County Libraries" and "International Co-operation." The committee having the last named subject in charge made the following tentative report.

1. Resolved: That there shall be established an *International Library Committee*.
2. It shall consist of members selected by the national library associations—only one from each country—whose representatives have adopted this resolution, and of members designated by associations of other countries.
3. Its duties shall be to select the time and place for international library conferences, and, with the co-operation of local committees, to prepare the programs for such conferences; and to make investigations and recommendations covering international relations between libraries, literary and bibliographical organizations and other agencies. The next international conference shall be held in 1929 or 1930; thereafter such meetings must be held at least once in five years.
4. It shall have power to appoint such committees of its own members or of such members of any of the national library associations represented on the International Library Committee.
5. The officers of the International Library Committee shall be a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary.

The first chairman shall be the representative of the Library Association of Sweden, and the first vice-chairman shall be the representative of Germany. Their terms shall be for two years. Thereafter the chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected by the committee by correspondence vote for terms of five years or until the conclusion of the next conference following their election. The secretary shall be chosen by the committee and may or may not be a designated member. Vacancies shall be filled by the committee.

6. No action taken by the International Library Committee shall be binding on any national library association until ratified by it.

The social features consisted of an "at home" given by the chairman of the local reception

committee and Lady MacDonald to the overseas visitors; a civic reception by the Lord Provost, magistrates and council of the City of Edinburgh; a reception by the Library Association to overseas visitors in the Parliament House, National Library of Scotland, the Library of the Faculty of Advocates, the Library of the Society of Writers to H. M. Signet, and the Library of the Solicitors of the Supreme Court, by courtesy of the several authorities; and finally the annual dinner.

With one accord the overseas visitors declared the Jubilee Conference one of the best library meetings ever held.

FRANK P. HILL, *Librarian,*  
*Brooklyn Public Library.*

## Motion Pictures Based on Literature

- SELECTED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW
- ALIAS THE LONE WOLF. Columbia. 7 reels. Stars: Bert Lytell and Lois Wilson. Scotland Yard man poses as crook to catch crook; from the novel by Louis Joseph Vance (Appleton).
- CHINESE PARROT, THE. Universal. 7 reels. Stars: Marion Nixon and Herbert Bosworth. Mystery involving a pearl necklace and a talkative parrot; from the novel by Earl Derr Biggers (Bobbs).
- FIGHTING EAGLE, THE. Pathé. 9 reels. Star: Rod La Rocque. Adventures of a braggart Napoleonic soldier; from A. Conan Doyle's *Adventures of Gerard* (Appleton).
- KID GLOVES. Universal. 7 reels. Star: Charles Ray. Romance of the prize fight ring; from "Betty's a Lady," a story by Joe Beaumont in *Red Book Magazine*.
- LOVES OF CARMEN, THE. Fox. Star: Dolores Del Rio. Embroidered version of the story by Prosper Mérimée.
- PATENT LEATHER KID, THE. First National. 12 reels. Star: Richard Barthelmess. Slacker prize fighter makes good in war; from a story by Rupert Hughes in the *Cosmopolitan Magazine*.
- POWER OF DARKNESS. Neumann Productions. Players of Moscow Art Theatre in screen transcript of Tolstoi's tragic novel.
- SILK STOCKINGS. Universal. 7 reels. Star: Laura La Plante. Young couple agree to disagree; from Cyril Harcourt's play *A Pair of Silk Stockings*.
- WE'RE ALL GAMBLERS. Paramount. 7 reels. Star: Thomas Meighan. Night club owner wins society girl; based on Sidney Howard's play *Lucky Sam McCarver* (Scribner).

## For Students of Book Illustration

LONG out of print and much in demand by library school students and others interested in book illustration, two publications of the New York Public Library are now again available. These are *The Illustrated Book*, being notes on an exhibition in the print gallery, and *Illustrated Books of the Past Four Centuries*, a record of an exhibition held in 1919. Both are by Frank Weitenkampf, curator of prints, who is instructor in book illustration at the Columbia University School of Library Service.

## Current Periodicals in the Public Library

**R**OUTINE in the care and handling of current periodicals immediately after their receipt at the department designated to care for them, as well as the necessary detail in placing subscriptions and following them up to insure prompt and full delivery of all copies ordered were described in a series of papers read at the periodicals round table of the Toronto conference in June, under the chairmanship of I. Charlotte Campbell of the St. Paul Public Library.

At the Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library the handling of all magazine subscriptions and all magazines to which the library subscribes, with the exception of the Business Branch, is done by the staff members in the reading room department. Subscriptions, with few exceptions, extend thru the calendar year, and are placed thru an agent. Requests are sent during the early fall to branch librarians and department heads, asking them to suggest any changes that they may desire in the periodical lists for the following year. These lists of suggestions are sent to the librarian for approval, and when returned to the department, these titles are added to or dropped from the long lists for the following year. Four lists, amounting in all to twenty-one sheets of typewritten titles, include the general list of magazines subscribed to by the central library and nineteen branches, the business branch list, a foreign publications list, and a local list of periodicals published in Indianapolis. Twenty-four copies of the lists are typed and sent early in October to the Board office, to be mailed out to various agents for their bids. After the bids are let, all publishers whose publications have been dropped from the lists are informed of that fact, as well as those whose number of subscriptions has been changed. There is only one delivery of second class mail made at the library during the day. This mail is delivered to the reading room department before 9 a.m. After the magazines are checked, each morning, those going to the branches are tied into packages and sent to the stations department, from which place the delivery to the branches is made. At the time of checking and stamping the magazines careful search is made for concealed supplements, indexes, incomplete issues and mutilated pages. Supplements and indexes are indicated upon the check card, and in case of a bulletin or periodical published irregularly, the number of the issue is also indicated as well as the volume number. If thirty copies of a magazine are received when a

subscription calls for thirty-five, an assistant pencils in the number thirty on the card for the magazine and draws the card from the file. If the missing copies do not come in the next mail delivery, a form postcard is sent to the publisher asking for them. An order card is used which is placed in back of the check card in the file. Upon this card are indicated the name of the magazine, where ordered, date of order, issue ordered, and the number of copies ordered, also the branches to which copies are to be sent when received. When the missing copies arrive this card is drawn out, the date of receipt written on the card and the magazines sent to the branch indicated, after which the card is filed in the order file of cancelled orders and the transaction is considered closed. A good-humored letter is apt to bring a reply in kind, and a prompt one, from the publisher. Requests for missing issues of magazines intended for binding in the branches are sent by branch librarians to the reading room department. Orders for copies unobtainable from the publishers are sent to a dealer in back numbers.

Thirteen hundred periodicals, five hundred of which are scientific or technical, are received currently at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. A file or list of the periodicals received is kept on cards, and these are entered under the first word of the title. Journals, transactions, proceedings, etc., of societies are entered under the name of the society, and also under the title. Annuals and library bulletins are not included in this list. The check file is divided into sections, one for weeklies, one for fortnightly publications, one for monthlies, etc. When a weekly periodical is received, the date of the periodical is entered on the check card, and the latter is put in a file to the right which is labelled "Weeklies. Have Come." At the end of the week a postal card is sent for magazines cards for which still remain in the first file. Monthly and other files are treated similarly except that magazines are checked by volume number, and the day of the month on which they are received is noted. When more than one copy of a periodical is received, the number of copies received is checked and the date received noted. Twenty-five periodicals which come very irregularly are checked in a separate file. For the information of the departments concerned, a list of scientific periodicals sent to the bindery is kept in the technology department, and a list of the general periodicals sent to the bindery is kept in the reference department. The peri-

odicals division enters on the department list the periodicals sent to the bindery, and the catalog department keeps these lists up to date when the magazines are returned from the bindery. When the first volume of a magazine is ready for binding, it is sent first to the order department and stamped for adult or juvenile, then to the catalog department, and from there to the bindery. Whether or not a new periodical shall be bound is decided by the reference or the technology librarian. When there is any change in name, or when magazines consolidate, the information is sent to the catalog department. Magazines returned from the bindery are sent first to the order department, then to the catalog department. The bindery slips are then sent to the periodical division and the magazines are checked off the bindery list as bound. All periodicals for the branch libraries are ordered thru the periodical division. In September branch librarians send in their lists for the following year. The reference librarian goes over the periodical list each year and decides what non-technical periodicals shall be ordered, and the technology librarian decides on the periodicals for his department. These are entered on cards and sent to the order department where the work of placing subscriptions is done. The branch periodicals are mailed direct to branches, and the latter send any they wish to bind direct to the bindery.

The work of the periodicals division of the New York Public Library calls for the handling of more than five thousand periodicals, as described by Miss Ulrich in a previous article (LIBRARY JOURNAL, 1926, 51:1119-1121). In rounding out a collection of trade periodicals published Crain's *Market Data Book* has proved useful. For notes on new periodicals the *London Mercury*, the *London Times Literary Supplement*, and the *Bulletin of Bibliography*, which gives new titles, changed titles, and deaths in the periodical world, have proved most useful. Occasional announcements of new periodicals are given in the book review supplements of Sunday editions of various newspapers, and in the *Publishers' Weekly*.

The periodical division of the Detroit (Mich.) Public Library is responsible, with few exceptions, for the receipt, distribution and follow-up of all copies received in the library system either as gifts or by subscription. The bulk of the fourth class mail is collected each morning and delivered by library truck to the division. It is then sorted, opened and arranged for checking. The checking card is a 4"x6" Library Bureau form. On it is recorded the title, number of issues a year, number of copies subscribed for, destination of each copy, name and address of publisher or agent, and information as to whether or not the periodical is bound. In

checking, the year and month, volume and number, and number of copies received are entered, but the date of receipt is not recorded except in cases where the date of issue is later than that which appears on the periodical. Date of receipt and ownership are stamped on the front cover of periodicals in the upper right hand corner, and the department stamped in the upper left hand corner. If the proper number of copies is not received ten days after the date stamped, a notification is sent to the publishers; if the first does not produce results, a second notification is sent fourteen days later to the agent; if after another fourteen days the desired copies have not been received, the order department is notified. When a volume is sent to the bindery a record is made for the periodical bindery file and a notification sent to the department where the bound volume will be shelved. The bindery notifies the periodical division when a volume leaves there and this information is entered on the record of bound volumes, thus completing its history so far as the division is concerned. Subscriptions are placed by the order department. Each September the periodical division, branches and the various departments using periodicals in reference work submit lists of periodicals from which the order department prepares the subscription list for the ensuing year.

When the John Crerar Library of Chicago was organized half of its resources were immediately spent on sets of periodical literature. More than half of the volumes added in the first two years, amounting to some 75,000, were sets of periodicals. Lists of periodicals currently received by the larger research libraries were collated and any periodical appearing on a number of them was *ipso facto* thought worthy of inclusion in the list of the John Crerar Library. Sets were obtained thru the Boston Book Company. On January 1, 1927, the library had on its periodical list 4,131 journals and over 17,000 continuations. In addition there are about three hundred titles on which entry has not been closed since the existence of some is still in question and others are published at such long intervals that their names were omitted when the last *List of Current Periodicals* was published in 1924. All journals are bound except a few hundred titles, most of the latter being preserved in pamphlet cases. Consequently a most exact record is kept of receipt of all issues, title pages, indexes and supplements and in many cases of various paginations. Bills are approved and claims and acknowledgments made in the periodical department. In shelving the periodicals a brief classification by only the first two figures of the full D.C. call numbers is used, as experience in the opening year of the library proved that more useful than an



alphabetical arrangement. All orders are given to continue indefinitely unless cancelled. A renewal list is submitted once a year by the American agent only. American journals are ordered thru the Moore-Cottrell Subscription Agencies, of North Cohocton, N. Y.. German ones thru Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig; the remainder, English, French, Italian, and Spanish, thru B. Westermann and Co. of New York City. The foreign periodicals are not mailed by the publisher but collected by the agent and shipped

in bales once a week. The bill approved for 1926 amounted to \$13,923, altho 1,425 journals were received as gifts, and the library cannot afford more than one copy of each title except in a few cases. As nearly as can be estimated, about 55,000 pieces of mail are entered each year, over 3,000 volumes bound, and 2,000 acknowledgments and claims made. The work is cared for by two day attendants and one evening assistant in the main periodical and in the medical room each.

## How Grand Rapids Uses Current Periodicals

*The Use of Current Periodicals in the Grand Rapids Public Library, told by Samuel H. Ranck, Librarian, at the Periodicals Round Table of the A. L. A. in Toronto in June.*

THE Grand Rapids Public Library since the Ryerson Library building (the main library) was opened to the public in 1904, has laid great stress on the use of current periodicals. This was brought about in the first instance by the arrangement of the building which is cut up into many public rooms, so that always at least one librarian is required in each room. Periodicals were placed in a number of these rooms so as to attract people into them and to keep the librarians busy. This was so satisfactory that with the establishment of branch libraries periodicals are always made a most important factor of the service.

The Library now maintains thirty-nine reading rooms open from twenty-five and a half to seventy-nine hours a week, and the number of readers in these rooms so far as we count them (we do not count them all) is nearly equal to the number of books issued for home use, some months the number of readers exceeding the number of books issued. Books of course are also used largely in the reading rooms, but periodicals dominate. By opening the smaller branches more hours a week, as we hope to do this coming winter, we should soon have a registered reading room use considerably greater than the number of books issued for home use, that is to say about one hundred thousand a month during the winter.

The item for current periodical subscriptions in our budget for 1927-28 is \$7,000; we spent \$6,646.64 last year. This is in addition to periodicals that are paid for out of sundry trust funds. In round numbers the Library spends twenty per cent of its book fund for periodical subscriptions, and the book fund expenditure includes only books and periodicals. It does not include binding. In comparing our expenditures for periodicals with those of other cities I notice that for many years we have been

spending more for current periodicals than some cities with five or six times the population of Grand Rapids, now about 160,000. We take 1,093 current periodicals (titles), to the number of 2,227 copies, several hundred of these coming as gifts or exchanges to the Ryerson building. We take forty-five titles in eight foreign languages, fourteen of these in the Dutch language (Holland it is called in Grand Rapids), with twelve copies of one of these Dutch periodicals.

Our policy with reference to gifts is to accept and file, for a limited time at least, one copy of anything and everything for the main library, mostly for the reference department. At the branches we accept no gifts, except neighborhood publications, usually weekly newspapers. There is constant pressure from all sorts of propaganda organizations to get their publications into the branches. With our limited space at the branches these gifts, if we admitted them, would leave no room for anything else. The periodicals in the branch libraries are all duplicates of those in the Ryerson Library Building. The number of periodicals in the branches ranges from thirty-seven to eighty-nine, and the annual subscription expense from \$137 to \$361.70. We take in the Ryerson Library Building a considerable number of duplicates of the more popular periodicals for circulation, the largest number of extra copies for circulation in that building being thirteen, for *Good Housekeeping*.

At the branch libraries after the current number has been received the back numbers until bound are issued for circulation. Many of the more popular periodicals at the branch libraries as well as at the Ryerson building are bound for circulation. All of the periodicals indexed in any of the numerous periodical indexes are bound for the reference department of the Library, besides many not so indexed. The

average cost of such periodical binding is over three thousand dollars a year.

In our periodical list we have endeavored to include one or more current periodicals relating to every trade and industry, business and profession, and worth while interest that has any considerable following in Grand Rapids. We do not, however, entirely cover the field and never have; for example, when it was suggested before Michigan went dry that we should have one or more periodicals representing the liquor trade the Library Board was unwilling to spend public money for publications of that sort. Personally, however, I have always felt that we should have taken such periodicals if for no other reason than that persons who were opposed to the liquor trade ought to have been able to come to the Public Library and get the point of view and study the arguments of the other side.

The following is a list of the number of titles of periodicals on certain subjects:

Agriculture, in-cluding Garden- ing, etc. ....	43	Juvenile .....	10
Architecture and building .....	24	Law .....	12
Automobiles .....	4	Library Economy. .	21
Bibliography ....	44	Literary and Gen- eral .....	93
Business and Ad- vertising .....	42	Mechanical Trades (not listed sepa- rately) .....	31
Chemistry .....	6	Medicine .....	64
Commerce and Finance .....	29	Mercantile Jour- nals (Special)..	12
Domestic Econo- my and Cookery	13	Military Art and Science .....	3
Education .....	54	Municipal Affairs.	35
Electrical Engi- neering .....	6	Music and Drama.	15
Engineering and Machinery .....	47	Natural History...	12
Fashions .....	8	Out-of-doors Life..	15
Fine Arts .....	29	Philology .....	4
Forestry and Landscape Gar- dening .....	11	Philosophy includ- ing Psychology.	11
Furniture and Woodwork ....	23	Photography ....	4
Gas .....	2	Politics and Cur- rent Affairs ...	98
Geography and Travel .....	29	Printing and En- graving .....	4
Highway Engi- neering .....	6	Radio .....	3
History and Gene- alogy .....	35	Religion and The- ology .....	76
Humor .....	3	School and College Publications ...	42
		Science .....	31
		Sociology and Eco- nomics .....	65

The Library takes about twenty-five daily newspapers, and a very large number of weekly newspapers, especially the illustrated ones, all the leading European countries being repre-

sented with one or more of these illustrated weeklies. There are, for example, twenty-five copies of the *Illustrated London News*. We also take other publications from nearly every part of the world—Asia, Australia, etc. We ought to take a great many more dailies, and would if we had the room for them. A daily newspaper from Chicago is taken at all of the branch libraries, twenty-five copies, and at the larger branch libraries and at all high school branch libraries, in addition to the Chicago paper, the *New York Times*, eight copies. The Library buys, in addition, the bound volumes of the *New York Times* for the use of the reference department where it is invaluable because of its *Index* and special features even before the *Index* comes. We have bound files of this newspaper for many years.

The local newspapers, that is, the papers of Kent County, Michigan (the county of Grand Rapids), are the only papers that we bind. The others we keep for several years, and then dispose of them in one way or another, although often there is nothing left to be disposed of except for the paper mill. Nearly all the publishers of local newspapers send us two copies of every issue. One of these goes into the reading room for public use and the other is laid aside for binding.

Some of the most used newspapers are local papers of nearby towns in western Michigan. Former residents of these towns who now live in Grand Rapids come to the Library regularly to read the old home news.

The daily papers from different parts of the country are used in a great variety of ways at the main library. First, of course, there is a small group of gentlemen of leisure who spend most of their time in our reading rooms reading more or less all of the daily papers. However, they are also used a great deal by business men, particularly men who come from out of the city, who are with us for the time being and who want to know what is happening back home, for we have papers from many places which cannot be purchased at the news stands or the hotels of the city. Twice a year for a period of four weeks each, some three thousand furniture buyers and salesmen from all parts of the United States and some from abroad are in Grand Rapids. They use our newspapers and reading rooms a great deal. During the summer a large number of the tens of thousands of people going thru the city to the Michigan resorts come to the Library to use the newspapers. Our bound local newspapers are frequently used for testimony or evidence in the courts. A representative of the Library always goes with such a paper to the court and stays by it until it comes back. Sad experience has taught us never to let such papers get out of our

sight outside the Library. Patients taking treatment at a nearby sanitarium, who come from all parts of the United States and Canada, also use the newspapers a great deal, as well as the other periodicals and the Library in general. With only a few exceptions, every city of half a million population or over in the United States is represented in our daily newspaper collection. We also have a daily newspaper from Toronto, and one from Amsterdam, Netherlands, Grand Rapids being the largest Dutch city in the world outside of the Netherlands.

Our theory with reference to newspapers is that many vitally interesting things are happening all the time and that no one can be a progressive or an intelligent citizen without knowing what is going on. Furthermore, no one can have a reasonable understanding of what is happening in the world who does not get the viewpoint of the papers from different parts of the country and of the world. The reader of one newspaper only is likely to be a narrow minded citizen. Teachers in the high schools send pupils to the Library to enable them to report to the class on the editorial viewpoint from different sections of the country on questions under national discussion. Such a practice, I believe, aids greatly in giving a national viewpoint rather than a mere provincial one. As civilizing agencies libraries should, however, give more than a national point of view. They should encourage a world point of view, a world outlook. Current periodicals can do more to give our citizens a world outlook than any other feature of the library's work.

The news of the day is frequently as thrilling as the greatest tales of adventure that one may read in books, from the time of Homer down. The whole world was amazingly thrilled by the story of Lindbergh before it could get into the magazines, much less books. The Lindbergh story, by the way, has a great lesson for librarians and publishers as well. It indicates that the masses of the people, most of them inarticulate so far as library matters are concerned, are sick and tired of the poor type of sex books that are flaunting themselves before the public as "literature." As a matter of fact the great masses of the people never do read this stuff. Too many publishers, booksellers and librarians have allowed themselves to be swept off their feet by this degenerate literature.

As a general proposition we believe that vocational periodicals will reach the person who is not in the habit of using books in the library more quickly than will books themselves, and that periodicals of this sort, especially those on technical and industrial subjects, are a means of bringing many people to the Library, and

ultimately developing book readers and users out of them. To meet the reference needs of the people thru periodicals we take twenty-six copies of the *Readers' Guide*, one at each branch and two at the Ryerson Library.

Indeed, as we all know, periodicals are the only source for much debate material; and scores of debates are going on in the city all the time during the winter months. Much of this the librarians dig out of the current periodicals long before the *Readers' Guide* or other indexes arrive.

The following are some concrete instances of the use that is being made of periodicals not only in the main or Ryerson Library building but also in the branch libraries.

The use and circulation of magazines at our little branch libraries varies greatly in different parts of the city, but from five to ten a day issued for home use is a very usual occurrence, besides the use made of them in the library itself. *Popular Mechanics*, *Popular Science*, *National Geographic Magazine*, and *St. Nicholas* are especially popular for the boys. Another group for grown-ups takes in *Forest and Stream*, *Outdoor Recreation*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Popular Radio*, *Motor*, *House Beautiful*, *House and Garden*, etc. Magazines like *Life*, *Illustrated London News* and *Popular Mechanics* are worn to pieces. The Sunday issue of the *New York Times* has many special articles on timely subjects which are constantly used for school work in the high school branches.

Some of the branch librarians state that many people come to the branch who would never do so if it were not for the periodicals, and that a considerable number of patrons spend an afternoon or an evening at the reading tables once a week, to keep in touch with current thought.

The following paragraph from a report of one of our librarians is of interest:

I have noticed particularly the effect of the comic strip because of a certain amount of opposition to its use in the library. A number of children come to the Library primarily to see the "funnies." Most of these stay to read the juvenile magazines which are placed conveniently on the same table. Many of them soon call for a card and begin to take books. Tho' not highly educational the comics serve, I believe, as a means to an end.

Teachers in the schools use certain of the magazines a great deal in connection with their English work. This is particularly true of *Harper's*, the *Atlantic*, *Century*, and *Scribner's*, the "Big Four." One teacher of English gives an extra credit mark to the pupils for work turned in based on any of these four magazines.

Here is a paragraph from a report of a branch librarian:

Of all our magazines, the one which performs the greatest service to the librarian is the *National Geographic*. We have indexed our bound volumes and have found a mine of material. We are continually

asked for pictures of countries, birds, animals, flowers, etc., which can be found easily in the *National Geographic*, since we have indexed them.

Next to the *Geographic*, I believe that the magazine which fills the greatest need is the *Illustrated London News*. We clip the old copies, and usually keep the material as full-page clippings, either pictures or printed material, sometimes both. These we reinforce on the back when possible, but often that has part of the article which we are endeavoring to save. When this happens we paste strips on the margins, sew the pages together, and bind. We have several booklets of this sort made up on different subjects, which the teachers find very helpful, especially for pictures which we cannot procure from books.

All magazines that are not bound are thoroly clipped. In this way we have collected a very good picture collection, which the teachers are finding useful in their work.

The picture collections that have been built up at the branches from clipping magazines are a tremendous asset in the school work, especially in the classes studying art, advertising, etc. Such clippings are the only source for pictures on many subjects. The picture covers of many magazines are all filed for the same uses.

In the branch neighborhoods some of the barbers come weekly to the branch and get magazines to place on the tables in their shops.

The following paragraph is from the report of another branch librarian:

I have a little Holland boy whose father does not speak English very well, as he has been in this country but a few months. This small boy always takes a bound volume of *National Geographic*, because his father likes to look at the pictures. I always suggest that a magazine be taken when some discouraged patron comes to the desk and says, "I can't find a book that I haven't read."

Another branch librarian reports:

Practically every department of the school uses the periodicals. The sociology classes do much of their work from assignments in magazines. The history classes are also given outside reading in the magazines to supplement their work. They read, especially, the articles by various historians about persons, places and facts of history, both past and present. The household economics department assigns outside reading in the magazines, and the art students use the library every day for illustrations and pictures of various types.

Each semester we instruct the pupils of the 9-2 grade in the use of the *Readers' Guide*. They do practice work in connection with this lesson and hand in answers to definite questions which are given them. In this way they become familiar not only with the current but also with the bound volumes of the periodicals.

I have written nothing about the enjoyment both the younger and the older persons get by coming to the library to browse and to look over the great number of magazines to which we subscribe. The overworked mother finds them a cure for care. There is often not enough left of some of the magazines to bind when summer arrives. It is gratifying to have them used but unfortunate not to be able to collect enough of certain numbers to complete a volume."

Still another paragraph from a branch librarian:

The magazines have a wide circulation both among the adults and the children. Of course all of the good story magazines are popular with the adults as are also

*House Beautiful*, *National Geographic*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's* and *Scribner's*. The latter magazines are lent to the principal and she sends them around to all of the teachers so that they have a wider use than is apparent. In a recent visit to some of the rooms, I found that the children were using the *National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, and *Illustrated London News*, in their school work. One grade (6-2) borrowed a large number of *Illustrated London News* and kept them several weeks for study during their leisure time. This was in connection with a talk given on London. They were much interested in comparing the *Illustrated London News* with our magazines and noting the differences. They use this magazine more than any other in their nature study, geography and history. Several of the magazines including the *Illustrated London News*, *Scientific American*, *House Beautiful*, *Outdoor Recreation*, and many others, after having been clipped for library purposes are sent to the principal's office and the children clip them again for illustrations in geography. All of the upper rooms have mounted posters showing the products, manufactures and scenery in different groups of states and all of this has been obtained from the magazines. Among the younger children, the *American Boy*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Popular Science Monthly*, *St. Nicholas*, and *Junior Home* are favorites. Two boys, each nine years of age, said their favorite magazine was *World's Work*.

I am sure enough has been said to indicate that periodicals are a most important factor of our work, both with children and with adults. We believe in them thoroly and only regret that we have neither the room nor the money to enable the public to use them still more.

I am fond of saying that the primary business of the library is to disseminate ideas rather than the mere circulation of books as such—disseminating ideas for the purpose of keeping the community intellectually alive and growing. A public library is a great sociological laboratory, the full significance of which, in studying the problems and in meeting the requirements of a new age, we have hardly begun to sense. I believe in the possibilities of individual and social improvement, that human beings and society as a whole are not static, but alive to the ideas and movements of the time. One of the greatest factors to individual and social improvement is a "creative discontent," a discontent with things as they are, and with the impulse to make them what they ought to be, to the end that men and women may realize in the development of their personalities the most and the best of life. In the process of making new worlds for old thru kindling the divine spark of such a creative discontent, current periodicals in our libraries are a most important factor.

### A Neighborhood Enterprise

KNOWING that the Library has no building fund and realizing that county funds would mean additional taxation, the residents of neighborhoods in Portland, Ore., have provided their own buildings. The Lombard Branch provided in this way was opened on September 22.



# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

OCTOBER 15, 1927

MOST important and far reaching, perhaps, of the results of the Edinburgh Conference is the establishment of an International Library and Bibliographical Committee. Action looking toward this was taken last fall when most of the delegates of twenty-four foreign countries represented at the American Library Association conference at Atlantic City met with the officers of the A. L. A. and the members of its Committee on International Relations, to discuss common problems relating to librarianship in its international aspects. Subsequent inquiry by the A. L. A. showed that nine countries were ready to join in such an international organization, and verbal approval of the project by the authorized delegates at the Edinburgh Conference was given by six other countries, with the result that national library associations of fifteen countries are members of the International Committee. These are Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States; and the executive committee is composed of delegates of Czecho-Slovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Sweden and the United States. The delegate from Sweden, Dr. Isak Collijn, is the first chairman of the Committee and to him and his executive committee consisting of seven delegates will fall arrangements for the next international conference of librarians tentatively scheduled for 1929 or 1930.

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the beginnings of the American Library Association came the great government report from our Bureau of Education which helped to stimulate library advance, and now in the jubilee year of the British Library Association comes the report made by the special Public Libraries Committee, appointed by the president of the Board of Education and now presented as a Parliamentary paper. Its appearance has been looked forward to with much interest and it is already a subject of discussion *pro* and *con*, and it formed the subject of two, at least, of the major debates at the sessions of the Edinburgh conference. It is practically a survey of the libraries of England and Wales, less elaborate than the A. L. A. survey but making a substantial octavo and treating of the various library interests, among

them the county system which England has adopted with such success. One of the chief points in the controversies which the report is likely to excite is covered in the criticism already made that, with Sir Frederic Kenyon of the British Museum as chairman and other representatives of the great collections rather than of public libraries, the view as to the proper education of the librarian is rather that of a bibliographer than of an administrator. It is difficult to treat the report with illuminating comment from the American point of view, which differs not a little from that of our British brethren, and the discussions in British library circles will therefore be watched with more interest.

CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH has not only been bibliographically laid to rest in the revived *Sabin*, but has indeed had a separate tombstone erected to his memory in a "separate" of those *Sabin* pages devoted to his printed career! How astonished would that doughty explorer be could he become aware of the extent to which his name has occupied title-pages and his story acres of print! The "separate" has been issued by the Bibliographical Society of America and can be had at a reasonable price considering the outlay the work has involved, from the Committee of which Mr. Lydenberg is chairman.

## Calendar

- Oct. 18-19. At Brookings. Headquarters at the State College Library Building. South Dakota Library Association.
- Oct. 18-20. At Des Moines. Iowa Library Association.
- Oct. 20. At Dalton (Mass.) Public Library. Fall meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club.
- Oct. 25-27. At the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Kansas Library Association.
- Oct. 26-28. At West Baden, Ind. Indiana Library Association.
- Oct. 27-29. At Joliet. Illinois Library Association.
- Nov. 2-3. At the Hotel Charlotte, Charlotte, N. C. North Carolina Library Association.
- Nov. 4-5. At Huntington. West Virginia Library Association.
- Nov. 8-10. At St. Paul. Minnesota Library Association.
- Nov. 10-11. At the Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis. Indiana Library Association.
- Nov. 16-19. Port Arthur and Beaumont public libraries will be joint hosts to the Sabine District meeting of the Texas Library Association.
- Dec. 29-31. At the Drake Hotel, Chicago. Midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. Council and other groups.

## Library Book Outlook

WITH the fall publishing-season in fairly full swing, we find biography again leading in the number of new book titles.

Perhaps the most important biographical work is *Joseph Conrad: Life and Letters*, by G. Jean-Aubry (Doubleday-Page, 2 v., \$10.)

New autobiographical works are offered in Roald Amundsen's *My Life as an Explorer* (Doubleday-Page, \$3.50); William H. Crane's *Footprints and Echoes* (Dutton, \$5), being the memoirs of a veteran American actor; Feodor I. Chaliapin's *Pages from My Life* (Harper, \$5), the life-story of the famous Russian baritone; George Horton's *Recollections Grave and Gay* (Bobbs-Merrill, \$4), the story of a Mediterranean consul, filled with anecdotes; Katherine Mansfield's *Journal* (Knopf, \$3.50), the intimate diary of the brilliant young story-teller who died prematurely in 1923; William Ellery Leonard's *The Locomotive-God* (Century, \$4), a curious autobiography of the poet and scholar who won literary recognition a few years ago with his poem, *Two Lives*; and Will Durant's *Transition* (Simon & Schuster, \$3), a "mental autobiography" striving to show the effect, upon one mind, of the great changes that have been wrought in the religious faith of the Western world.

Other biographies are: *Alfred E. Smith*, by F. Pringle (Macy-Masius, \$3), a critical study of the much discussed Democratic presidential possibility; *"Boss" Tweed*, by Denis Tilden Lynch (Boni & Liveright, \$4), the story of the man who headed the most corrupt political ring New York City has ever known; *The Father of Little Women*, by Honoré Willis Morrow (Little-Brown, \$3), which reveals Bronson Alcott as the greatest of American schoolmasters; *Navigator*, by Alfred Stanford (Morrow, \$2.50), the life-story of Nathaniel Bowditch, the noted Salem navigator; *Robespierre* by Hilaire Belloc (Putnam, \$5), a character-analysis of the unscrupulous philosopher; *The Schumanns and Johannes Brahms*, by Eugenie Schumann (Dial Press, \$4), in which the daughter of Clara Schumann throws new light on the relations between the two families, and another Beethoven biography, *Beethoven: the Search for Reality*, by W. J. Turner (Doran, \$6).

Collective Biography is represented by *Patriots Off Their Pedestals*, by Paul Wiltach (920, Bobbs-Merrill, \$2.75), picturing the everyday lives of Washington, Franklin, Hamilton, Patrick Henry, Jefferson, John Adams, Marshall, and Madison; and *Certain Rich Men*,

by Meade Minnigerode (929, Putnam, \$3.50), portraying Stephen Girard, John Jacob Astor, Jay Cooke, Daniel Drew, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jay Gould, and Jim Fisk.

The new travel books of note comprise *In Ashanti and Beyond*, by A. W. Cardinal (916.6, Lippincott, \$6), an illustrated record of a resident magistrate's many years in tropical Africa; *King Cobra*, by Harry Hervey (915.9, Cosmopolitan, \$4), an illustrated record of travel in French Indo-China; *In Praise of France*, by Stephen Gwynn (914.1, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3.50), describing the glories of her architecture, her rivers and the joys they present to the angler, the fine food, and the inspired wines; *Cloud Lands of France*, by Amy Oakley (914.4, Century, \$4), an illustrated account of the beautiful mountain lands, of France bordering the famous Route des Alpes; *Pleasant Days in Spain*, by Nancy Cox McCormack (914.6, Sears, \$3.50), describing the beauties of Spain as seen thru the eyes of a noted sculptress; *Greece, Old and New*, by Ashley Brown (914.95, Dodd-Mead, \$5), which assembles the most interesting details of the past and sets out attractively the author's own impressions of modern Greek life; *London*, by George H. Cunningham (914.21, Dutton, \$7), a comprehensive index to all the streets of London, with exhaustive historical, literary, and general information, and a cross-index to persons, buildings, etc.; and *Waterways of Westward Wandering*, by Lewis R. Freeman (917.7, Dodd-Mead, \$3.50), which describes some small boat voyages down the Ohio, the Missouri, and the Mississippi.

Two history books of interest are: *America*, by Hendrik Willem Van Loon (973, Boni & Liveright, \$5), a philosophic and unflattering history of our country, done in colloquial English, and illustrated in the usual Van Loon manner; and *Egypt*, by George Young (962, Scribner, \$5), in the Modern World series.

New books on sociological and allied topics include: *Our Ancient Liberties*, by Leon Whipple (323, Wilson, \$1.50), being the story of the origin and meaning of civil and religious liberty in the United States; *Independence for the Philippines*, by Eleanor Ball (325, Wilson, 90c), in the Wilson "Reference Shelf" series; *The City Manager*, by Leonard D. White (325, Univ. of Chicago Pr., \$3), a study of Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City, and three other typical cities; *Political Myths and Economic Realities*, by Francis Delaisi (330, Viking, \$4), in which a French economist finds the source of current

ills in the conflict between political formulas and economic facts; *Getting and Spending at the Professional Standard of Living*, by Jessica B. Peixotto (338, Macmillan, \$2.25), a study of living costs; *Industrial Combinations and Public Policy*, by Myron W. Watkins (338, Houghton-Mifflin, \$2.50), a study of combination, competition, and the common welfare; *Immigration Restriction*, by Roy L. Garis (325, Macmillan, \$1), a study of the American situation by an associate professor of economics in Vanderbilt University; *Juvenile Courts in the United States*, by Herbert H. Lou (364, Univ. of North Carolina Pr., \$3), one of the University's "Social Study" series; *The A-B-C of Prohibition*, by Fabian Franklin (178, Harcourt-Brace, \$1), in which the chief aspects of the controversy are considered by one of the foremost opponents of the Eighteenth Amendment; *Wholesome Marriage*, by Ernest R. Groves (173, Houghton-Mifflin, \$2), a discussion of the social and personal aspects of the married state; *Eugenics and Other Evils*, by G. K. Chesterton (504, Dodd-Mead, \$2.50), essays directed against the scientifically organized world of which Chesterton is a protesting member; *Janus: the Conquest of War*, by William McDougall (172.4, Dutton, \$1), a psychological inquiry, issued in the "To-day and To-morrow" series; and *The Builders of America*, by Ellsworth Huntington (613.9, Morrow, \$3.50), a study of the American populace from a quality point of view, based on the records of many groups and classes.

There is also a new volume—Volume 8—of the "Intercollegiate Debates" series (808.5, Noble, \$2.50).

Science and Useful Arts are represented by the following: *The Natural History of a Savant*, by Charles Richet (501, Doran, \$2), a literary *jeu d'esprit*, having for its theme the special peculiarities, idiosyncrasies, and divers characters met with in the learned man; *The Life of the White Ant*, by Maurice Maeterlinck (595.7, Dodd-Mead, \$2.50), the story of the termites, insects that live in underground colonies and never come out into the open air; *The Story of Geology*, by Allan Louis Benson (550, Cosmopolitan, \$1), written for the lay reader; *The Story of Radio*, by Orrin Elmer Dunlap (621.3, Dial, \$2.50), by the radio editor of the *New York Times*; and *The Business Man's Guide to Printing*, by Charles C. Knights (655, Macmillan, \$3).

Essays and Miscellanies offer *What's Ahead, and Meanwhile*, by Edward S. Martin (814, Harper, \$2.50), discoursing on a variety of topics; *Cream of the Jug*, by Grant Overton (817, Harper, \$2), an anthology of humorous stories, including Wodehouse, Ring Lardner, H.

C. Witwer, and others; and *The American Caravan* (813, Macaulay, \$5), a literary yearbook, representing the prevailing literary tendencies in this country.

*The Letter*, by W. S. Maugham (822, Doran, \$2), is a threeact play based on one of Maugham's short-stories, in which Katharine Cornell is playing this season.

*The Shaping of English Literature*, by Amy Cruse (820.1, Crowell, \$3.50), embodies a fresh and original idea—the treatment of English literature from the standpoint of the reader and hearer, showing the part they have played in its formation.

*Some Rogues and Vagabonds of Dickens*, by Walter Dexter (823, Lippincott, \$5), includes Bill Sykes, the Artful Dodger, Mr. Merdle, Jonas Chuzzlewit, and others.

Miscellaneous non-fiction titles of interest are: *British Preachers: Third Series*, edited by James Marchant (252, Revell, \$1.75), containing twenty-three more sermons by well known British preachers; *But—Is It Art?* by Percy Hammond (792, Doubleday-Page, \$2.50), bits of gossip, criticism, and history of the stage, by the drama-critic of the *New York Herald-Tribune*; *The Chinese Rug Book*, by Mary Churchill Ripley (745, Stokes, \$3.50), a simple book, for the novice and the collector; *The Story of Everest*, by John Noel (796, Little-Brown, \$1), thrilling tales of adventure on the roof of the world, by the official photographer of both British Everest expeditions; and *Tales of Swordfish and Tuna*, by Zane Grey (799, Harper, \$6), more adventure stories of big-fish angling, illustrated.

Eight new fiction, titles worth considering are: James Branch Cabell's *Something About Eve* (McBride, \$2.50), the story of a Southern gentleman who became a god and was waylaid by women; William J. Locke's *The Kingdom of Theophilus* (Dodd-Mead, \$2.50), which is slightly different from his other novels; Irvin S. Cobb's *Chivalry Peak* (Cosmopolitan, \$2), the humorist's first novel, a tale of Southern chivalry in the West of to-day; Will Levington Comfort's *Samadhi* (Houghton-Mifflin, \$2.50), the story of a rich young American who meets romance and adventure in the elephant country of Northern India; Sophia Cleugh's *Jeanne Margot* (Macmillan, \$2), a novel of intrigue; Agatha M. Christie's *The Big Four* (Dodd-Mead, \$2), a tale of four super-soundrels who seek to dominate the world; J. S. Fletcher's *Hardican's Hollow* (Doran, \$2), a new Fletcher murder mystery story; and Freeman Wills Crofts' *The Starvel Hollow Tragedy* (Harper, \$2), a new "Inspector French" mystery story.

LOUIS N. FEIPEL

Brooklyn Public Library

# Library Work

*Notes of Development in all Branches of Library Activity Particularly as Shown in Current Library Literature*

## Views on a Staff Bulletin

A QUESTIONNAIRE addressed to the staff of the Oakland (Calif.) Public Library regarding its *Staff Bulletin* brought forth some definite views, and with the current number (vol. 21, No. 1, July-September) "the *Bulletin*, based upon the results of this questionnaire makes its initial appearance."

About twenty-six replies seem to have been received. Of these twenty-three favor continuing the *Bulletin*; three oppose it; sixteen favor a quarterly issue, ten a monthly one; twenty-two want a strictly Staff paper, two wish it public, one suggests a circular issued monthly by the office to disseminate news, one suggests that it combine both staff and public news; twenty want an Open Forum column, one opposes it, three question its value; twenty-two are willing to co-operate with the Editorial Committee; twenty are satisfied with the Departmental copy, and six prefer individual copies.

Regarding contents suggestions were made as follows: "Book reviews (6), staff news sheet (8), items of interest to librarians (4), human and original material (4), items of interest to the public, recent accessions, notices of coming attractions—lectures, concerts, etc., brief reports of local meetings, more personals, ideals of service, less exchange and fewer branch reports, contributions from outsiders as to what they should like to find in the library a 'spice of life' column, new library projects, suggestions regarding magazine articles, books, etc., of interest to the staff, letter from Mr. Kaiser in each issue telling his plans, less reprinted material."

## Analyzing Periodicals

IS it worth while to make analytical catalog cards for periodicals? Opponents of the practice point out that while scientific periodicals are usually ten years ahead of scientific textbooks, it follows that scientific periodicals are therefore not worth keeping for more than ten years. As regards literary journals, all the best of the material is either worked up later into books or appears among the collected essays of the author. Fiction and poetry, if of any value, are republished in book form. Finally, the use of bound magazines falls off rapidly after the first year.

It is quite possible to answer all these objections, which are enumerated and then confuted by W. R. B. Prideaux, librarian of the Reform

Club, London, in his article "The Analytical Cataloging of Periodicals" in the *Library Association Record* for September. The material in scientific periodicals may or may not appear later in books, and in any event scientific workers and researchers will never be satisfied with anything less than the original papers which describe scientific advances, methods of research, or new facts and investigations. Abstracts alone will not suffice, since their usual function is to give sufficient information to indicate whether the original article requires to be read or not. While some of the best of the literary material may get worked up into book form, it does not follow that the library will acquire the books containing that material. If the demand for serial fiction or short stories is slight, it may be that the copy in magazine form is sufficient, provided its presence is noted in the catalog. The argument that the use of bound periodicals falls off very rapidly after the first year is applied to general rather than to special periodicals, but even so cannot be taken at its face value. The argument can be applied with almost equal force to the average book. The demand for the ordinary circulating library book falls off very rapidly once the first rush of reviews has passed. If such books are worth adding to the permanent library they must be properly cataloged and classified, and the same applies to a file of periodicals bound and kept. It is arguing in a vicious circle to complain that the back volumes are never used if the contents of those volumes are not made available by analytical cataloging or otherwise, says Mr. Prideaux. The merits of analytical cataloging are that it gets full value out of special libraries, facilitates quick reference in information bureaus, and increases the usefulness of smaller libraries containing even a few files, especially when these latter are kept because they are of the most interest or use to the particular clientele of the library.

## The Dunn Decorator for Book Finishing

A MACHINE invented expressly for finishing bound or rebound books as distinct from edition work, the Dunn Decorator, one of the exhibits at the Edinburgh Conference of the British Library Association, is described in the *Librarian* for April. The machine does whatever is possible by hand finishing with the



important difference that it does the entire back of the book—title, author, library imprint, class letter and number, as well as decoration—in one operation, instead of in piecemeal fashion. Originally introduced to do "blind" work only, six or more lines at a time, instead of one, it has been developed to do lettering as well as decorative work. It lays on gold leaf preparatory to, or in co-operation with the lettering and decorative work. A device for ink line work—commercial work exclusively—is also provided. For all classes of gold work and for "blind" design work the machine is operated by hand, and causes the operator no fatigue. For blind work itself, which is more fatiguing, the machine is power driven. The quality of the work is more accurate in alignment of both lettering and decoration, because it eliminates the human element. The saving in time and money is even more noteworthy.

The original machine for "blind" work is provided with a carriage which can be slid back and forth, mounted on a guide frame. The carriage has lugs extending downward which have a fixed projection on the one side and a movable projection on the other side. The spindle on which the type and tool carrier is mounted is provided with counter-bored ends, the one end of which is fitted into the fixed projection and is then tightened as required by the movable projection. The carriage is connected to a lever-like frame at each side, and when this is brought forward the type and tool carrier—which is connected to the carriage—is depressed by means of a control bar connected to front ends of the guide bar to bring it into contact with the back of the book and is then rocked over the book, the book having previously been clamped in a quick acting vice.

The type and tool carrier is in the form of a cylinder which may be any length, and is two inches in diameter. This cylinder has a series of spaced ribs with flat sides extending around their whole circumference. Between these ribs are mounted a holder into which the type and designs have first been fitted, and the holder is pressed between the ribs and retained by the frictional engagement of the parts.

The type holder is semicircular in shape and is provided with an extending flange on one side and spring metal on the other. The two sides are fixed to lugs by rivets, so that the holder can flex outwardly and be distended to insert the type and designs. The type, itself, is made with the two opposite side faces tapered, and with another face formed with a notch, which engages with the extending flange of the holder, and is advantageous in that it beds together on the carrier, can be quickly applied to the carrier and quickly dissembled, and having

an interengaging flange and notch at one side only, it must always be placed in the carrier in the correct way.

In order to ensure that the lettering and decorative work are placed symmetrically upon books of different thickness a ridge is fitted in the centre of the type and tool carrier in a position unoccupied by the type or tools, and this ridge co-operates with a screw pointer fixed on the carriage to position the type carrier on the machine. After the type carrier has been positioned in this way, the screw pointer is retracted, out of engagement with the ridge, to enable the type carrier to roll freely. A small brass rule having a boss is mounted upon the left-hand guide bar, and this brass rule co-operating with the front edge of the carriage slide acts as an index mark to show the position for each thickness of book. Thus, a book two inches thick is clamped in position and the carriage slide is moved until the edge is opposite the two-inch mark on the brass rule, then the type and tools will be positioned centrally over the back of the book.

The machine is not a new form of "Blocking Press," because the blocking press does flat work only, whereas this machine does nothing but rounded or "bound" work. The blocking press has its own field of usefulness, in which it is supreme, but that field is limited to edition work. "Bound" work is outside its province.

## Book Publicity

**I**SSUED by the Newark Public Library in a little pamphlet with an orange-yellow cover, "Surprising Statements from Recent Books" on a wide range of subjects from business to aesthetics, "are printed merely as news, and as suggestions of things that may seem worth reading. The Library does not offer any opinion about their value."

One of the surprising statements, taken from an article in the *Dartmouth Alumni Magazine*, might be called a modern business man's version of Lincoln's famous saying about fooling people. Others concern the problem of improving the race biologically; the nature of morality as viewed by Jesus, Plato, and Nietzsche; prohibition and its relation to the laws of nature; Henry Ford's idea of how the United States of Europe may be brought about; why it is easy to attend college in the United States and hard to get an education; how women have improved their political status by giving up the excessive use of cosmetics; why Americans are the most up-to-date people in the world and at the same time servilely bound to played-out traditions; why the gods are getting better, and many others.

## Among Librarians

Helen Reiff, 1926 Wisconsin, joined the staff of the Public Library, Harrisburg, Pa., as children's librarian on September first. She had been in the children's department, Newark Public Library, since her graduation.

Thomas P. Ayer, librarian of the Richmond (Va.) Public Library, goes to Reading, Pa., on December 1 as librarian. Until his successor is chosen Mr. Ayer will, if necessary, return to Richmond as consultant in connection with the new library building there.

Mary Armstrong Ayres is children's librarian of the Kent (Ohio) State Normal College and not librarian as recently reported. Margaret Dunbar is librarian.

Clara M. Barnes, 1919 Wisconsin, children's librarian for the past four years of the Buhl (Minn.) Public Library, resigned in the summer to accept a position in the children's department of the Seattle Public Library.

Written by a librarian and dedicated to another librarian is *Profane Earth*, by Holger Cahill, just issued by the Macaulay Company, New York. The book is dedicated to John Cotton Dana, librarian of the Newark Public Library. The author has for the past five years been a member of the Newark Library staff. The book is announced by the publishers as a "full canvas pageant of American life," and according to a reviewer in the Newark *Star-Eagle*, it reflects the influence of John Cotton Dana. Says this reviewer: "In his interest in the life and movement right at hand and in his grasp of modern life Mr. Cahill shows the influence of John Cotton Dana, to whom the book is dedicated. It is one of Mr. Dana's frequent preachments that there is art and beauty and fascination in the things of industry and commerce that surround us on all sides and which are so often considered prosaic, or mechanical and dull. Mr. Cahill has taken just that setting and shown clearly and grippingly the reactions of a man in it."

Katherine Cuzner, 1923 Simmons, appointed assistant librarian at the Rhode Island College of Education, Providence.

Ethel M. Fair, assistant professor of library science at the University of Wisconsin Library School, has resigned to the great regret of the school, and has gone to her home in Harrisburg, Pa.

Alice J. Foster, 1926 Western Reserve, appointed librarian of the Jessup W. Scott High School in Toledo.

Esther Friedel, 1914 Wisconsin, branch librarian in the Cleveland Public Library system, has resigned to become librarian of Jefferson (Wis.) Public Library.

Matilda Hanson, 1927 Wisconsin, appointed social science cataloger in the library of the State University of Iowa.

Frances Heckman, 1927 Wisconsin, has accepted the librarianship of Christian College, Columbia, Mo.

Fanny C. Howe received appointment during the past year as librarian of Troy Public Library where she had been head cataloger.

Edith Harrell, 1923 Simmons, appointed librarian of the Springfield (Ohio) High School library.

Francis J. Hudleston, librarian of the British War Office, in his *Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne: Misadventure of an English General in the Revolution* (Little) has treated his subject in the light-hearted manner indicated by the subtitle and made familiar in his earlier volume of *Warriors in Undress*. Of the acknowledgments in the preface the most cordial go to David Chambers Mearns of the Library of Congress, to whom, says Mr. Hudleston, "the shade of John Burgoyne should be as grateful as I am."

Annie C. Huestis, 1926 Pratt, appointed associate librarian of the Central Y. M. C. A. Library in Brooklyn.

Dorothy Hyde, 1924 Simmons, is now the children's librarian of the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library.

Dorothy Irwin, 1926 Simmons, appointed assistant librarian of the Withrow High School, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Lucille J. Littlefield, 1923 Simmons, is assistant librarian at the State Teachers College, Indiana, Penn.

Rose Mantell, of the Racine (Wis.) Public Library staff, succeeds Helen Burlin, resigned, at the A. L. A. Headquarters office as assistant to Mr. Dickerson in preparation of the "Reading with a Purpose" courses.

Frances Pope, 1924 Simmons, has been appointed cataloger at the Baker Library of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University, Cambridge.

Marian E. Potts, 1912 Wisconsin, appointed acting librarian, Schenley High School Library, Pittsburgh. Miss Potts has been chief of the circulation department, Public Library, Birmingham, Ala.

Gertrude A. Schwab, 1916 Wisconsin, became librarian of the Muncie (Ind.) Public Library September 1, after four years of work as librarian of the Superior Public Library.

Azariah Smith Root, for over forty years librarian of Oberlin College, died suddenly of heart failure following a minor operation. Tho attached to one institution thruout practically all his professional career (during a sabbatical year he acted as principal of the Library School of the New York Public Library) Professor Root was well known nationally in connection with activities of the American Library Association and the Bibliographical Society of America, of both of which organizations he had been president.

Ada V. H. Taylor appointed as librarian of the Village Club and Library of Cooperstown, N. Y.

Vida L. Thomas, 1926 Wisconsin, appointed librarian of the public schools, Ely, Minn.

Elizabeth E. Wilson, an Illinois graduate, succeeds Ethel M. Fair as assistant professor of library science at the University of Wisconsin Library School.

Adeline B. Zachert, director of school libraries, Pennsylvania State Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, has been appointed supervisor of school libraries in New York State, Albany, succeeding Nell Unger.

## In the Library World

### Massachusetts

MAPS, charts, posters and portraits displayed in its Exhibition Room give a graphic representation of what the public library of the city of Boston has accomplished in civic service by book and lecture since the first ordinance to give definite form to the library was passed by the Common Council on the fourteenth of October, 1852. Prominent among the portraits is that of Joshua Bates, for whom the chief reference room, Bates Hall, was named. The fifty thousand dollars which he gave the library in the year of the founding for the purchase of books has yielded \$167,097 in interest in the seventy-five years. Edward Everett, whose portrait hangs near, gave the library its first large gift of books in the collection of more than a thousand volumes of state papers, documents collected while he was minister to Great Britain and Secretary of State.

In 1856 the library owned 28,000 books as compared with 1,388,439 in 1926, in the main building and thirty-two branches. In the earlier year 82,000 books were lent; last year nearly three and a half million. The cost of administration is now reckoned in terms of a million, whereas in the first years \$11,000 was the average. The Children's Room with its six thousand books achieved a circulation of 67,000 volumes. Young people under sixteen years of age comprise 118,548 of the library's 136,499 card-holders, and fifty per cent of last year's circulation of books was to children. A high proportion, or 243 from 580 of the library's employees, are required for duty in the branches and 304 deposit stations. The percentage of card-holders has increased faster proportionately than the population of the city, which registered an increase of only 5.4 per cent—from 747,535

to 788,222—since 1919, while the number of persons holding library cards has increased 43 per cent—from 94,559 to 135,499. In the same years the circulation of books increased fifty-two per cent. The current exhibition has several beautiful specimens of the fine and rare books which the library sometimes acquires from the proceeds of its \$726,075 in gift funds.

### South Carolina

GREENVILLE COUNTY, S. C., at an election held on September 13, voted to levy a library tax and to contract with the Greenville Public Library for service. The tax will bring in between \$18,000 and \$20,000 a year. For three years Greenville County has had a demonstration service carried on from private funds. The successful campaign for a tax has justified the demonstration.

### Missouri

IN the tornado which struck St. Louis so disastrously the Public Library escaped with practically no injury. Dr. Bostwick writes:

"Only one library building was in the affected district, that of the Divoll Branch. The damage there was limited to uprooted trees, broken glass and slight injuries to the roof. It was completely repaired in two days.

"None of our staff was hurt, but sixteen members suffered loss or damage of property, including, in a few cases, total destruction of a house. The staff subscribed a substantial sum for tornado relief, and it was decided to apply part to relieving certain urgent and immediate necessities of our own people, turning over the balance to the general relief committee.

"The Library congratulates itself on a fortunate escape."

## Ohio

A RECENT bequest to the Toledo Public Library of \$100,000 from Mr. Edward Drummond Libbey, who died November 13, 1925, has been invested and the income is to be used for the purchase of books. Mr. Libbey, one of the most prominent figures in the country in the glass industry, gave practically his entire fortune to various Toledo institutions. The Toledo Museum, whose building he had already provided, had its endowment increased by about \$10,000,000. Funds were provided for the establishment of a School of Art and a School of Music in connection with the Art Museum. Generous amounts were made available to the Board of Education for scholarships for teachers and for graduates of the schools, and a large number of lesser gifts were made to various institutions, among these a gift of \$15,000 to the library of the Libbey High School named for him.

The Public Library has just received a gift of \$2,789 from the Toledo Polish Socialist Association. This sum represents the entire balance in their treasury at the time of discontinuing their organization. The money will be used, principal and interest, for the development of a collection of Polish books in the Toledo Public Library.

## Wisconsin

FORTY-ONE students are registered in the class of 1928 of the University of Wisconsin Library School, the largest class in the history of the School. Represented in the class are eleven states, the District of Columbia, Canada, and Norway, Wisconsin leading with seventeen students. Nineteen are graduate students, seven are seniors on the joint course basis, five rank as juniors, four as sophomores, and six, who are academically ranked as freshmen, have had preparation in the field of library work itself.

## California

THE Los Angeles Public Library year ending June 30, saw the opening of the new central building with its highly specialized organization; it witnessed in the branches system the completion of nine new buildings constructed with funds from the 1925 bond issue, and three others nearing completion; it brought for the first time a fairly adequate book appropriation (the book budget for the year was \$195,290); it witnessed the many changes and improvements made possible by the equipment of a modern library building.

Interesting statistics, as recorded in the annual report, included a 17 per cent gain in book circulation bringing the year's circulation to

6,449,189 volumes, or five volumes per capita. Of this, 4,776,439 volumes were borrowed from branches and stations. Registered borrowers number 255,006. The book stock has reached 746,033 volumes of which 411,244 are in the branches system.

Library properties are valued at \$7,602,217, a marked increase due to the new valuation set on the Central Library five acre site, the value of the new branch buildings and book collection. Expenditures for maintenance amounted to \$1,092,795 or a little less than one dollar per capita. Salaries absorb 60 per cent of the expenditure, and the staff, in equivalent of full time assistants, numbers 526.

A notable feature of the first year in the new building is the marked increase in the number of visitors to the library, and in the amount of research and reference work done in the reading rooms. Music, for the first time displayed on the open shelf cases of an attractive separate room, reports an increase of twenty-nine per cent in circulation. The adult education department at the end of its first year of existence has acquired a book collection of the "Reading with a Purpose" titles, has enrolled twenty readers in the courses, and has compiled a file of all adult education agencies in the city. The interest in the service given by the Readers' Adviser grows daily. The patents collection in a separate and accessible room reports an average of eight hundred visitors a month and many instances of time and money saved thru use of the files and specifications; photostat service has proved a popular innovation with patent attorneys, inventors, motion picture research workers, newspaper writers, students of genealogy, artists and architects; a small collection for the blind attracted about one hundred blind readers.

To the lecture and exhibit room free lectures brought an average monthly attendance of 12,000 visitors. Thru the courtesy of local professors the California Association for Adult Education courses were offered on current events, science, literature and a number of talks in foreign languages. Exhibits proved popular.

Plans for the future include the completion of the specialization of departments, with the establishment of a department of philosophy and religion, the changing this fall of the reference department to a circulating and reference collection on history, biography and travel, and the placing of both circulating and reference works on literature and philology in the department formerly known as Circulating General Literature. A municipal reference library is to be placed in the new City Hall about January first, and there is need for at least twenty new branch buildings if the Library is to "keep up with Los Angeles."



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# Current Literature and Bibliography

The second annual supplement to the third edition of the *Children's Catalog* (1925) compiled by Minnie Earl Sears, is now ready. (New York: H. W. Wilson Co. 106p. paper. 75c.) This supplement is cumulative and its three hundred and eighty-five books include the two hundred books and thirty new editions listed in the first supplement.

In 1849 the Library Association of Portland, Oregon, started a publication called *Our Library* which ran intermittently until 1901. After a lapse of two years, it was resumed under the title of the *Bulletin* and continued until 1921, since when there has been no library organ. Now comes a news sheet under the title of the original publication, *Our Library*, with one page for library news and three to list accessions. It is to appear monthly from September to June. Vol. I, No. 1-2, 3rd series is dated Sept.-Oct. 1927.

The first *School Library Handbook* represents "the chief work of the A. L. A. Education Committee over a period of years in its effort to bring the two public educational systems, the schools (including state universities, colleges, normal, high, elementary, night, continuation) represented in the U. S. A. and the libraries represented in the A. L. A. into satisfactory working relations in supplying suitable reading material to students and in teaching them how to use and appreciate books and libraries."

Part I is a brief but comprehensive survey of school library progress in 1926, instruction in the use of books and libraries (for elementary and for high schools, for normal schools and for colleges or universities), and a directory of nearly thirteen hundred school librarians who are members of the A. L. A., forms the third and last part. (Chicago: A. L. A. 156p. paper. \$1.35.)

*Find It Yourself! A Brief Course in the Use of Books and Libraries Under the Contract System*, by Elizabeth Scripture and Margaret R. Greer, is published in two editions, student's and teacher's, by the H. W. Wilson Company. The teacher's edition includes additional questions to be assigned the student in fulfilling some of his contracts, which are arranged in ascending order of difficulty. The completion of C and D Contracts is required for a passing grade; for the highest grades all the contracts must be completed. The A Contract in Block 2, on "The Book," for instance, requires the student to put a composition into book form as if for publica-

tion, with title-page, table of contents, an index and notes if necessary; or to choose five topics from a book (assigned by the librarian from a list in the Teacher's Edition) and list these topics with exact pages as if for an index.

The reading course entitled *Classics of the Western World* recently published by the American Library Association (cl. 123p., \$1.25) is intended to exhibit the mind of western Europe, moving for two thousand years or more thru the various interests, imaginative, intellectual, scientific, and emotional, which have occupied it from century to century, according to John Erskine in his prefatory note. The course was prepared by the Columbia University Honors Faculty for use by upper classmen in an Honors Course at that university and has also been used successfully by The People's Institute in various reading and discussion centers in New York City. The readings for each author, from Homer to Freud, are divided into three classes, Recommended, Additional, and Supplementary, and average about ten titles to an author.

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### ADVOCATES' LIBRARY, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

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### BOOK WEEK

Book Week plans and projects. *LIB. JOUR.* 52: 911-913.

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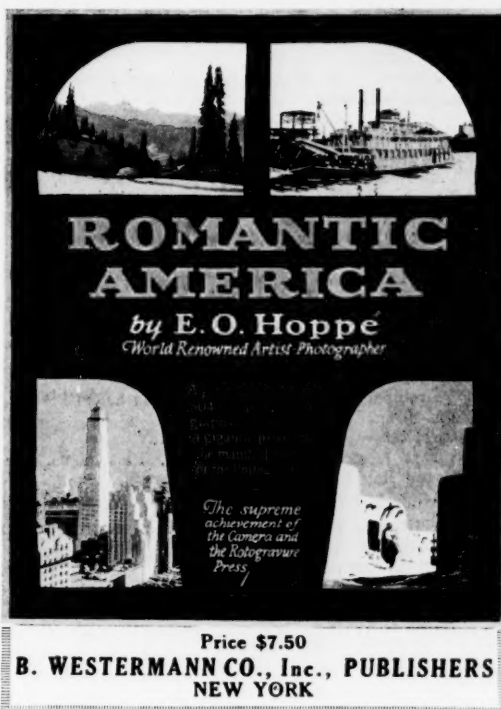
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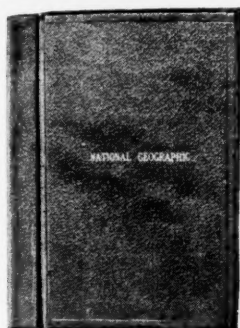
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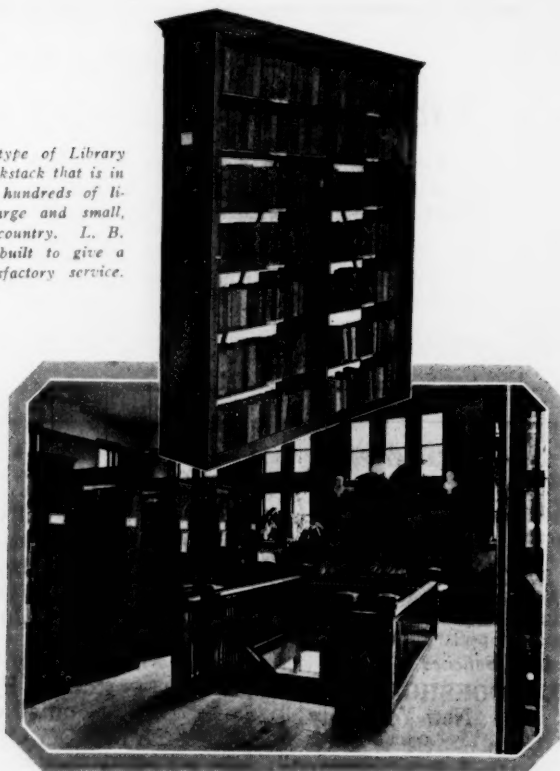
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